SPECIES OF INTEREST IN THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE MARINE ECOLOGICAL RESERVES WORKING GROUP

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Background

The Marine Reserves Working Group adopted by consensus the following ecosystem objective for establishing marine reserves in the Channel Islands: To protect representative marine habitats, ecological processes, and species of interest. The MRWG developed a set of criteria to define species of interest in the Channel Islands. The list includes (1) species of economic and recreational importance, (2) keystone *or* dominant species, (3) candidate, proposed, or species listed under the Endangered Species Act, (4) species which have exhibited long-term or rapid declines in harvest and/or size frequencies, (5) habitat-forming species, (6) indicator or sensitive species, and (7) important prey species. The list excludes species that are (1) incidental, (2) at the edge of their range, or (3) highly migratory.

Criteria

- 1. species of economic and/or recreational importance
- 2. keystone or dominant species
- 3. candidate, proposed, or species listed under the Endangered Species Act
- 4. species which have exhibited long-term or rapid declines in harvest and/or size frequencies
- 5. habitat-forming species
- 6. indicator or sensitive species
- 7. important prey species

Species of Economic and Recreational Importance

Commercial and recreational fishing the Channel Islands is an important part of the local economy. The Department of Fish and Game indicates that 10,000 to 20,000 commercial fishers have been employed in California during the 1980s and 1990s. Per capita income in commercial fishing has been historically high in California, but it has exhibited wide fluctuations from a yearly low of \$24,000 in 1984 to a high in \$40,000 in 1988. Fluctuations in commercial and recreational fisheries affect a wide range of community members, including fishermen, people who operate sport fishing boats, and people who buy and process fish for local and export markets. The list of species of interest includes the top 10 commercial and recreational fisheries.

Keystone species

Keystone species (Paine 1966, 1969) are those species having a large, disproportionate effect, with respect to their biomass or abundance, on their community (Power and Mills 1995, Power et al. 1996). The loss of a keystone species can have various effects on the remaining species in an ecosystem--what kind and how many depends upon the characteristics of the ecosystem and upon the species' role in its structure. Cascade effects occur when the local extinction of one species significantly changes the population sizes of other species, potentially leading to other extirpations. Such cascade effects are particularly strong when the species removed from the system is a "keystone predator", a "keystone mutualist", or the prey of a "specialist predator."

Depleted Species

A species is designated as "depleted" when it falls below its optimum sustainable population. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has defined optimum sustainable population as "a population size which falls within a range from [the carrying capacity of the] ecosystem to the population level that results in maximum net productivity." Optimal sustainable populations are recognized under the Marine Mammals Protection Act as "the number of animals which will result in the maximum productivity of the population or the species, keeping in mind the optimum carrying capacity of the habitat and the health of the ecosystem of which they form a constituent element." When a species falls below its optimal sustainable population, the species is classified as "depleted" and a conservation plan is developed to guide research and management actions to restore the health of the species.

Vulnerable Species

A vulnerable species is not endangered or threatened severely, but at possible risk of falling into one of these categories in the near future.

Candidate Species

A "candidate" species is, as its name implies, a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). More specifically, it is a species or vertebrate population for which reliable information is available that a listing under the ESA may be warranted. The Department of Fish and Game and NMFS rely on information from status surveys conducted for candidate assessment and on additional information from State Natural Heritage Programs, other State and Federal agencies (such as the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management), scientists, public and private natural resource interests, and comments received in response to previous notices of review. Candidate species receive no mandatory Federal protection. NMFS encourages Federal agencies and others to protect these species. The candidate species list highlights those species/vertebrate populations for which NMFS has concerns regarding their status, thereby encouraging voluntary conservation efforts by others.

The list of candidate species is used to provide advance notification to the public that specific marine, estuarine and anadromous species (and vertebrate populations) may warrant listing in the future. This can help the species and the public in two ways: Environmental planners and developers can locate and design long-term projects to minimize impacts to candidate species, reducing the likelihood that these projects will require modification later in the event of a species' listing. The candidate species could be benefited if voluntary conservation measures are undertaken to alleviate threats.

Proposed Species

Proposed species are candidate species for which the Department of Fish and Game has sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to support proposals to list them as endangered or threatened.

Threatened Species

A threatened species is any species which is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Endangered Species

An endangered species is any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range other than a species of the Class Insecta determined by the Secretary to constitute a pest whose protection under the provisions of this Act would present an overwhelming and overriding risk to man.

Recovered Species

A recovered species is any species that was listed as an endangered or threatened species at some time in the past and whose population has, since it was listed, stabilized or grown such that it no longer qualifies for classification as endangered or threatened.

Annotated List of Species of Interest

For each species of interest, the following information was summarized:

- 1. COMMON NAME
- 2. SCIENTIFIC NAME
- 3. PHYLUM
- 4. CLASS
- 5. ORDER
- 6. FAMILY
- 7. STATE STATUS
- 8. FEDERAL STATUS
- 9. OTHER DESIGNATED STATUS
- 10. DATE LISTED
- 11. DISTRIBUTION
- 12. HABITAT
- 13. DIET
- 14. OTHER REMARKS
- 15. COMMERICAL REGULATIONS
- 16. SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS
- 17. REFERENCES
- 18. CRITERIA FOR LISTING

The information is provided to guide development of alternative scenarios for marine reserves in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

page	Species	Scientific Name
	PLANTS	
1	Giant Kelp	Macrocystis pyrifera
2	Feather Boa Kelp	Egregia menziesii and laevigata
3	Elk Kelp	Pelagophycus porra
4	Oar Weed	Laminaria farlowii
5	Agarum fimbriatum	Agarum fimbriatum
6	Eisenia arborea	Eisenia arborea
7	Pterygophora californica	Pterygophora californica
8	Scoulder Surfgrass	Phyllospadix scoulei
9	Torrey Surfgrass	Phyllospadix torreyi
10	Eelgrass	Zostera spp.
	INVERTEBRATES	
11	California Hydrocoral	Allopora californica
12	Hydroid	Abietinaria spp.
13	Ostich-Plume Hydroid	Aglaophenia latirostris
14	Ostich-Plume Hydroid	Aglaophenia struthionides
15	Hydroid	Clytia bakeri
16	Hydroid	Garveia annulata
17	Hydroid	Obelia spp.
18	Hydroid	Sarsia spp.
19	Hydroid	Sertularella turgida
20	Hydroid	Sertularia frucata
21	Hydroid	Tubularia crocea
22	Red Gorgonian	Lophogorgia chilensis
23	California Golden Gorgonian	Muricea californica
24	Brown Gorgonian	Muricea fructicosa
25	Colonial Sand Tube Worm	Phragmatopoma californica
26	Giant Acorn Barnacle	Balanus nubilus
27	Aggregating Anemone	Anthopleura elegantisima
28	Giant Starfish	Pisaster giganteus
29	Ochre Starfish	Pisaster ochraceus
30	California Sea Cucumber	Parastichopus californicus
31	Warty Sea Cucumber	Parastichopus parvamensis
32	Red Sea Urchin	Strongylocentrotus franciscanus
33	Purple Sea Urchin	Strongylocentrotus purpuratus
34	Pink Abalone	Haliotis corrugata
35 36	Black Abalone	Haliotis cracherodii
36	Green Abalone	Haliotis fulgens

Scientific Name page **Species INVERTEBRATES** 37 Red Abalone Haliotis rufescens 38 White Abalone Haliotis sorenseni 39 Owl Limpet Lottia gigantea 40 Wavy Turban Snail Lithopoma undosum 41 Kellet's Whelk Kelletia kellettii 42 California Mussel Mytilus californianus 43 Rock Scallop Hinnites giganteus 44 Pismo Clam Tivela stultorum 45 Geoduck Clam Panopea generosa 46 Market Squid Loligo opalescens 47 California Spiny Lobster Panulirus interruptus 48 Red Rock Shrimp Lysmata californica 49 Spot Prawn Pandalus platyceros 50 Ridgeback Prawn Sicyonia ingentis Red Crab 51 Cancer productus 52 Rock Crab Cancer antennarius 53 Sheep Crab Loxorhynchus grandis **FISH** 54 Leopard Shark Triakis semifasciata 55 Pacific Angel Shark Squatina californica 56 Soupfin Shark Galeorhinus galeus 57 Thornback Ray Platyrhinoidis triseriata 58 Pacific Herring Clupea pallasii 59 Pacific Sardine Sardinops sagax 60 Engraulis mordax Northern Anchovy Gadus macrocephalus 61 Pacific Cod 62 California Grunion Leuresthes tenuis 63 California Scorpionfish Scorpaena guttata 64 Pacific Ocean Perch Sebastes alutus 65 Sebastes atrovirens Kelp Rockfish Brown Rockfish 66 Sebastes auriculatus 67 Gopher Rockfish Sebastes carnatus 68 Copper Rockfish Sebastes caurinus 69 Greenspotted Rockfish Sebastes chlorostictus 70 Black and Yellow Rockfish Sebastes chrysomelas 71 Dark-blotched Rockfish Sebastes crameri 72 Starry Rockfish Sebastes constellatus 73 Calico Rockfish Sebastes dallii 74 Widow Rockfish Sebastes entromelas 75 Cowcod Sebastes levis

Species Scientific Name page **FISH** 76 Black Rockfish Sebastes melanops 77 Vermilion Rockfish Sebastes miniatus 78 Blue Rockfish Sebastes nystinus 79 Speckled Rockfish Sebastes ovalis 80 **Bocaccio** Sebastes paucispinis 81 Canary Rockfish Sebastes pinniger 82 Grass Rockfish Sebastes rastrelliger 83 Yelloweye Rockfish Sebastes ruberrimus 84 Flag Rockfish Sebastes rubrivinctus 85 Olive Rockfish Sebastes serranoides 86 Treefish Sebastes serriceps 87 Honeycomb Rockfish Sebastes umbrosus 88 Shortspine Thornyhead Sebastolobus alascanus 89 Lingcod Ophiodon elongatus 90 Cabezon Scorpaenichthys marmoratus 91 **Giant Seabass** Stereolepis gigas 92 Broomtail Grouper Mycteroperca xenarcha 93 Paralabrax clathratus Kelp Bass Ocean Whitefish 94 Caulolatilus princeps 95 White Seabass Atractoscion nobilis 96 Halfmoon *Medialuna californiensis* 97 Black Surfperch Embiotoca jacksoni 98 Barred Surfperch Amphistichus argenteus 99 Shiner Surfperch Cymatogaster aggregata 100 Walleye Surfperch Hyperprosopon argenteum Silver Surfperch 101 Hyperprosopon ellipticum 102 Rubberlip Surfperch Rhacochilus toxotes 103 Blacksmith Chromis punctipinnis 104 Garibaldi Hypsypops rubicundus California Sheephead 105 Semicossyphus pulcher 106 Tidewater Goby Eucylogobius newberryi 107 California Halibut Paralichthys californicus 108 Starry Flounder Platichthys stellatus 109 CO-Turbot Pleuronichthys coenosus

page	Species	Scientific Name
	BIRDS	
110	Ashy Storm Petrel	Oceanodroma homochroa
111	California Brown Pelican	Pelecanus occidentalis californicus
112	Snowy Plover	Charadrius alexandrinus
113	California Least Tern	Sterna antillarum browni
114	Pigeon Guillemot	Cepphus columba
115	Xantus' Murrelet	Synthliboramphus hypoleucus
116	Cassin's Auklet	Ptychoramphus aleuticus
	MAMMALS	
117	Harbor Seal	Phoca vitulina
118	Northern Fur Seal	Callorhinus ursinus
119	Southern Sea Otter	Enhydra lutris nereis

Species of Interest 1

COMMON NAME Giant Kelp

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Macrocystis pyrifera

PHYLUM Phaeophyta
CLASS Phaeophyceae
ORDER Laminariales
FAMILY Lessoniaceae

STATE STATUS Medium Concern

DISTRIBUTION Found along the Pacific coast of N America from central

California to Baja California.

HABITAT Prefers depths less than 40 m (120 ft), temperature less

than 20°C (72°F), hard substrate such as rocky bottoms and

bottom light intensities above 1% that of the surface.

REMARKS Usually does not occur shallower than about 5 m or deeper

than about 20 m.

COMMERCIAL Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 165c. Kelp species taken must be harvested by cutting, except drift and loose kelp may be

picked up by the harvester. All kelp which is cut or removed from a bed must be taken from the water and removed to a plant for processing. No giant kelp shall be

harvested at a depth of more than 4 ft below the surface of the water at the time of cutting. No kelp received aboard a vessel shall be allowed to escape from the vessel or be

deposited in the waters of this site.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 30.00. Except as provided in this section and in

Section 30.10 there is no closed season, closed hours or minimum size limit for any species of marine aquatic plant. The daily bag limit on all marine aquatic plants for which the take is authorized, except as provided in Section

28.60, is 10 pounds wet weight in the aggregate.

REFERENCES http://www.catalinaconservancy.org/marine/algae

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

Habitat-forming species. Important prey species.

For more information about commercial and sport fishing regulations consult the State of California Fish and Game Code, California Department of Fish and Game Title 14 Chapter 6. Commercial Fishing Regulations, and Current California Sport Fishing Regulations.

COMMON NAME Feather Boa Kelp

SCIENTIFIC NAME Egregia menziesii and Egregia laevigata (Setchell 1925)

PHYLUM Phaeophyta
CLASS Phaeophyceae
ORDER Laminariales
FAMILY Alariaceae

DISTRIBUTION Alaska to Punta Eugenio, Baja California. Northern

populations from Alaska to Cape Mendocino have tuberculate stipes and smooth sporophylls; populations from Los Angeles to Baja California have smooth stipes and wrinkled sporophylls; populations in the middle coast from the Channel Islands to Cape Mendocino possess every possible combination of features observed in the

geographical extremes.

HABITAT Common in protected to moderately exposed areas,

midtidal to subtidal (20 m), frequently forming continuous belts in intertidal, often mixed with *Macrocystis* in deeper

water.

REMARKS Fertile any time of the year, but most abundantly so

between April and November.

REFERENCES Abbott and Hollenberg 1976.

COMMON NAME Elk Kelp

SCIENTIFIC NAME Pelagophycus porra

PHYLUM Phaeophyta
CLASS Phaeophyceae
ORDER Laminariales
FAMILY Lessoniaceae

DISTRIBUTION Point Conception, California, to Isla San Benito, Baja

California.

HABITAT Subtidal on rock in gravel.

REMARKS Sporophytes in 30-90 m depth usually of uniform size.

REFERENCES Abbott and Hollenberg 1976.

COMMON NAME Oar Weed

SCIENTIFIC NAME Laminaria farlowii

PHYLUM Phaeophyta
CLASS Phaeophyceae
ORDER Laminariales
FAMILY Laminariaceae

DISTRIBUTION British Columbia to Bahia del Rosario, Baja California.

HABITAT Isolated populations, szxicolous, low intertidal in northern

California, subtidal (to 50 m) in the Channel Islands.

REFERENCES Abbott and Hollenberg 1976.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Provides habitat for other species.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Agarum fimbriatum

PHYLUM Phaeophyta
CLASS Phaeophyceae
ORDER Laminariales
FAMILY Laminariaceae

DISTRIBUTION Midtidal or subtidal from Alaska through Puget Sound;

subtidal (to at least 115 m) in California; only south of

Point Conception and around Channel Islands.

HABITAT Frequent on rocks, wood, or other algae.

REFERENCES Abbott and Hollenberg 1976.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Eisenia arborea

PHYLUM Phaeophyta
CLASS Phaeophyceae
ORDER Laminariales
FAMILY Alariaceae

DISTRIBUTION Vancouver Island, British Columbia, to Monterey Region,

Santa Catalina Island, California from southern California

to Isla Magdalena, Baja California.

HABITAT Saxicolous, forming dense subtidal "groves" in the low

intertidal and subtidal to 10 m.

REFERENCES Abbott and Hollenberg 1976.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Pterygophora californica

PHYLUM Phaeophyta
CLASS Phaeophyceae
ORDER Laminariales
FAMILY Alariaceae

DISTRIBUTION Vancouver Island, British Columbia to Bahia del Rosario,

Baja California.

HABITAT Saxicolous, forming extensive beds at depths of 7-20 m,

occasionally low intertidal.

REFERENCES Abbott and Hollenberg 1976.

COMMON NAME Scoulder Surfgrass
SCIENTIFIC NAME Phyllospadix scoulei

PHYLUM Anthophyta

CLASS Monocotyledoneae

ORDER Heloviae

FAMILY Potamogetonaceae

DISTRIBUTION Found along the entire California coast.

HABITAT Prefers rocky shorelines with heavy surf and wave action.

COMMERCIAL Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 165(g)(4). **REGULATIONS** No surf grass may be cut or disturbed.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 30.10. No surf grass may be cut or disturbed.

REFERENCES http://www.sfsu.edu/~geog/bhdzman/ptreyes

http://fff.nhm.ac.uk/fff/

COMMON NAME Torrey Surfgrass
SCIENTIFIC NAME Phyllospadix torreyi

PHYLUM Anthophyta

CLASS Monocotyledoneae

ORDER Heloviae

FAMILY Potamogetonaceae

DISTRIBUTION Found along the entire California coast.

HABITAT Prefers protected sandy areas of the coastal strand.

COMMERCIAL Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 165(g)(4). **REGULATIONS** No surf grass may be cut or disturbed.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 30.10. No surf grass may be cut or disturbed.

REFERENCES http://www.sfsu.edu/~geog/bhdzman/ptreyes

http://fff.nhm.ac.uk/fff/

COMMON NAME Eelgrass
SCIENTIFIC NAME Zostera spp.

PHYLUM Anthophyta

CLASS Monocotyledoneae

ORDER Heloviae FAMILY Zosteraceae

DISTRIBUTION Found from Mexico to Alaska.

HABITAT Prefer protected bays and lagoons up to 40 ft. deep

(usually in the intertidal or subtidal zone) with a muddy or

sandy bottom.

REMARKS In the northwest the maximum depth of eelgrass is 22 ft.,

but in extremely clear water off of California, eelgrass has

been found growing at depths of more than 100 ft.

COMMERCIAL Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 165(g)(4). No eel grass may

REGULATIONS be cut or disturbed.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 30.10. No eel grass may be cut or disturbed.

REFERENCES http://www.sfsu.edu/~geog/bhdzman/ptreyes

http://fff.nhm.ac.uk/fff/

http://www.botos.com/marine/egrass01.html

COMMON NAME California Hydrocoral SCIENTIFIC NAME Allopora californica

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Stylasterina
FAMILY Stylasteriidae

DISTRIBUTION Alaska to San Diego. Common subtidally in the Monterey

County.

HABITAT Common under ledges and the surfaces of boulders shaded

from sunlight in the low intertidal on wave-swept rocky

shores.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR In November, this species produces planulae that settle

near adult colonies.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Abietinaria spp.

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Hydroida
FAMILY Sertulariidae

DISTRIBUTION Alaska to San Diego.

HABITAT Common under ledges and the surfaces of boulders shaded

from sunlight in the low intertidal on wave-swept rocky

shores.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Releases sperm but retains eggs. Fertilization and

development into ciliated planula larvae occurs in the

gonangia.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

COMMON NAME Ostrich-Plume Hydroid SCIENTIFIC NAME Aglaophenia latirostris

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Hydroida
FAMILY Plumulariidae

DISTRIBUTION Southern Alaska to Santa Barbara.

HABITAT Common on rocks and larger red and brown algae in the

low intertidal zone along semi-protected rocky shores in

the subtidal to 35 m.

DIET Individual feeding polyps are small, but their arrangement

in the plume appears to provide maximum filtration of

food from waters passing through the colony.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR The corbulae contain the reduced, sessile medusoids. The

sexes are separate and male and female corbulae differ in form. Sperm are shed, but eggs are retained until they develop into large wormlike orange planulae, which

eventually become free.

REMARKS The sea spider *Tanystylum californicum* and small skeleton

shrimps (caprellids) commonly inhabit A. latirostris in the

Monterey Bay area.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

COMMON NAME Ostrich-Plume Hydroid **SCIENTIFIC NAME** Aglaophenia struthionides

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Hydroida
FAMILY Plumulariidae

DISTRIBUTION Southern Alaska to San Diego, California.

HABITAT Low intertidal on rocky, wave-beaten shores, subtidal to

160 m. Always attached to rocky reefs and pinnacles,

generally less than 50 ft (16 m) deep.

DIET Found wherever ocean currents will insure enough food

for survival. Colonies consist of feeding individuals (polyps) equipped with tentacles for capturing food as it

drifts into reach.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Reproductive polyps which produce a free-swimming

medusae. The medusae produce eggs and sperm that

develop into another colony.

REMARKS Individual plumes may reach 15 cm. in length.

REFERENCES Gotshall and Laurant 1979.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Clytia bakeri

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Hydroida

FAMILY Campanulariidae

DISTRIBUTION San Francisco to Baja California.

HABITAT Often common on shells of snails (*Nucifera fossatus* and

Olivella biplicata) and bivalves (*Tivela stultorum* and *Donax gouldii*) in the low intertidal and adjacent subtidal

zones along sandy beaches of open coast.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Each branch of the stalk, rising up to 12 cm tall, terminates

in a feeding polyp. Sessile gonangia arise at junctions of stalks and branches. At irregular periods during the year, enormous numbers of small free medusae are produced and released, forming a significant part of the plantkton.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Garveia annulata

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Hydroida

FAMILY Bougainvilliidae

DISTRIBUTION Sitka (Alaska) to Santa Catalina Island (Channel Islands).

HABITAT Common seasonally in shaded areas on open or

semiprotected rocky shores, usually growing on sponges or the branched corralline algae *Bossiella* and *Calliarthron* in the low intertidal zone. Subtidal to depths of 120 m.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR The gonophores are sessile medusoid structure, which on a

given colony are either all male or all female. Male medusoids shed their sperm to the sea. The female

gonophores retain the several large eggs they produce and

liberate planula larvae.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Obelia spp.

Cnidaria **PHYLUM** CLASS Hydrozoa ORDER Hydroida

FAMILY Campanulariidae

DISTRIBUTION Reported from the Pacific Coast and worldwide.

HABITAT Common throughout the year on rocks, pilings, seaweeds,

shells, and other fixed objects along the open coast and in

bays and harbors in the low intertidal zone to 50 m.

DIET Obelia polyps are preyed upon by Hermissenda

crassicornis, Dendronotus frondosus, and probably other

nudibranchs.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR A small, ovoid, swimming larva settles and attaches to the

substratum and rapidly develops into a feeding polyp. The polyp grows and buds off other feeding individuals, which remain connected to the main stalk and form a delicate treelike colony. Mature colonies develop specialized polyps here and there that do not feed, but instead bud off tiny medusae that detach, swim away, grow, and develop gonads. Eggs and sperm are shed into the sea and each fertilized egg forms a cilliated planula larva. In California, *Obelia* medusae are found in the plankton most of the year.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Sarsia spp.

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Hydroida
FAMILY Corynidae

DISTRIBUTION British Columbia to Chile, and on both coasts of the North

Atlantic.

HABITAT Common on rocks and wharf pilings, from the low

intertidal in coastal areas protected from strong wave action. Also in quiet bays on harbor floats and the eelgrass

Zostera.

DIET Polyps bend toward copepods that swim nearby.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Tiny medusae are budded from the bases of the feeding

polyps and released to the sea in spring and summer in California. The medusae feed, grow, and reproduce sexually as pelagic forms. Larvae settle mainly during the

winter months in Monterey Bay.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Sertularella turgida

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Hydroida
FAMILY Sertulariidae

DISTRIBUTION British Columbia to San Diego.

HABITAT Common under rocks and ledges in the low intertidal on

exposed shores. Subtidal to 160 m.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Releases sperm but retains eggs. Fertilization and

development into ciliated planula larvae occurs in the

gonangia.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Sertularia frucata

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Hydroida
FAMILY Sertulariidae

DISTRIBUTION British Columbia to San Diego.

HABITAT Common on bases of blades of surfgrass (*Phyllospadix*

spp.) and red algae in the low intertidal zone on exposed

rocky shores. Subtidal to 50 m.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR The medusoids are not released by produce gamete while

they remain sessile within the gonangia. Sperm are liberated into the sea, but the eggs are retained and

fertilized in place, developing into ciliated planula larvae,

which swim off and settle to start new colonies.

REFERENCES Morris et at. 1980.

SCIENTIFIC NAME Tubularia crocea

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Hydrozoa
ORDER Hydroida
FAMILY Tubulariidae

DISTRIBUTION Gulf of Alaska to San Diego, California.

HABITAT Common on pilings and floats in harbors and bays in the

low intertidal zone and subtidal to 40 m.

DIET Catches and consumes a wide variety of animal plankton,

especially copepods and small chaetognaths.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Medusae buds arise on feeding polyps between the two

whorls of tentacles. Male and female medusae occur on separate animals and remain attached. When the gametes

mature in summer, sperm are released to the sea. However, ripe eggs are retained and the female

reproductive structures release substances that attract swimming sperm. The eggs are fertilized in the medusoid

and actinula larvae are released. From June through August, the actinulae settle in concentrations of up to 200

individuals per cm².

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

COMMON NAME Red Gorgonian

SCIENTIFIC NAME Lophogorgia chilensis

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Anthozoa
ORDER Gorgonacea
FAMILY Muriceidae

DISTRIBUTION Monterey Bay to the San Benitos Islands, Baja California.

HABITAT Attached to rocks, particularly offshore pinnacles in depths

of 50-200 ft (16-66 m).

REMARKS Grows to about 90 cm. in height.

REFERENCES Gotshall and Laurant 1979.

COMMON NAME California Golden Gorgonian

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Muricea californica

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Anthozoa
ORDER Gorgonacea
FAMILY Muriceidae

DISTRIBUTION Point Conception to Baja California and into the Gulf of

California.

HABITAT Attached to rocks, particularly offshore pinnacles.

REMARKS Reaches 90 cm. in height.

REFERENCES Gotshall and Laurant 1979.

COMMON NAME Brown Gorgonian SCIENTIFIC NAME Muricea fructicosa

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Anthozoa
ORDER Gorgonacea
FAMILY Muriceidae

DISTRIBUTION Point Conception to Cedros Island, Baja California.

HABITAT Attaches to rocks or other solid substrate such as pier

pilings, pipes, wrecks, etc. in waters at depths of 50-100 ft

(16-33 m).

REMARKS Capable of surviving in polluted inshore waters as well as

in the clear, uncontaminated waters around offshore rocks.

Colonies may reach 90 cm. in height.

REFERENCES Gotshall and Laurant 1979.

COMMON NAME Colonial Sand Tube Worm SCIENTIFIC NAME Phragmatopoma californica

PHYLUM Annelida
CLASS Polychaeta
ORDER Terebellida
FAMILY Sabellariidae

DISTRIBUTION Fort Bragg, California to Ensenada, Baja California.

HABITAT Occurs only on rock with an adequate amount of sand washed

over the rock for the worms to capture, build, and maintain their tubes. From the intertidal zone to 240 ft (80 m).

REFERENCES Gotshall and Laurant 1979.

COMMON NAME Giant Acorn Barnacle

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Balanus nubilus

PHYLUM Arthropoda
CLASS Crustacea
ORDER Thoracica
FAMILY Balanidae

DISTRIBUTION Southern Alaska to San Quintin, Baja California.

HABITAT Hard substrate, such a rocks or pier pilings in strong currents

or pounding waves from the intertidal zone to 90 m.

REFERENCES Gotshall and Laurant 1979.

COMMON NAME Aggregating Anemone
SCIENTIFIC NAME Anthopleura elegantisima

PHYLUM Cnidaria
CLASS Anthozoa
ORDER Actiniaria
FAMILY Actiniidae

DISTRIBUTION Alaska to Baja California.

HABITAT On rock faces and boulders, in tidepools or crevices, on

wharf pilings, singly or in dense aggregations. Middle intertidal zone of semiprotected rocky shores of both bays

and outer coasts.

DIET Copepods, isopods, amphipods, and small animals that

contact the tentacles.

PREDATORS Nudibranch (Aeolidia papillosa), snail (Epitonium

tinctum), and the sea star (Dermasterias imbricata).

REMARKS Releases sperm and eggs in late summer. Development

has not been followed, but the larvae apparently swim or float freely for a period of time and become widely dispersed. Also reproduces asexually by longitudinal fission resulting in aggregations or cones of anemones pressed together in concentrations of several hundred per

square meter.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

COMMON NAME Giant Starfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Pisaster giganteus

PHYLUM Echinodermata
CLASS Asteroidea
ORDER Forcipulatida
FAMILY Asteriidae

DISTRIBUTION Vancouver Island (British Columbia) to Baja California;

Fisher (1930) recognized the southern forms as an intergrading subspecies, *P. giganteus capitatus*

(Stimpson).

HABITAT Common on piers and pilings, very low intertidal zone to

88 m depth in protected coastal areas; occasionally on sand

in subtidal waters.

DIET Bivalves, snails, chitons, and barnacles.

REMARKS In the Monterey Bay, gonads of the species enlarge in the

fall and winter, and spawning occurs in March or April.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Keystone or dominant species.

COMMON NAME Ochre Starfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Pisaster ochraceus

PHYLUM Echinodermata
CLASS Asteroidea
ORDER Forcipulatida
FAMILY Asteriidae

DISTRIBUTION Prince William Sound (Alaska) to Point Sal (Santa

Barbara); a subspecies (*P. ochraceus segnis* Fisher) extends at least to Ensenada (Baja California).

HABITAT Common, middle and low intertidal zones on wave-swept

rocky shores; subtidal on rocks to 88 m; juveniles in crevices and under rocks, seldom seen in central and southern California. Larvae are free-swimming and

pelagic.

DIET Mussels; where *Mytilus* is absent, it feeds mainly on

barnacles, snails, limpets, and chitons.

REMARKS Sexual reproduction occurs in the spring or early summer.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Keystone or dominant species.

COMMON NAME California Sea Cucumber SCIENTIFIC NAME Parastichopus californicus

PHYLUM Echinodermata
CLASS Holothuroidea
ORDER Aspidochirotida
FAMILY Stichopodidae

DISTRIBUTION

British Columbia to Isla Cedros (Baja California).

HABITAT

Often encountered on rocky shores protected from strong wave action and on pilings in open bays, low intertidal and subtidal waters in northern area; usually subtidal to 90 m in California.

DIET

Organic detritus and small organisms, which it ingests through bottom sediments.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Breeding occurs in the summer. Development is indirect; fertilized eggs develop into auricularia larvae. The larvae metamorphose into doliolaria larvae, which swim for a time and then settle. The entire pelagic phase lasts 7-13 weeks in the laboratory.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code 8405-8405.4. Sea cucumbers shall not be taken, possessed aboard a boat, or landed by a person for commercial purposes except under a valid sea cucumber permit issued to that person...Section 8496(c). Any amount of sea cucumbers may be possessed by a person who holds a valid sea cucumber permit...Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 123. To take mollusks, crustaceans, or other invertebrates for commercial purposes in any tide pool or tidal area, including tide flats or other area between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft below the low tide mark, revocable permits may be issued by the department...Also see Section 123(d).

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.10. Except as otherwise provided in this article, there are no closed seasons, closed hours or minimum size limits for any invertebrate. Section 29.10(b). Tidal invertebrates may not be taken in any tidepool or other areas between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft. seaward and lateral to the low tide mark. Also see Section 29.10(b-d).

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Warty Sea Cucumber

SCIENTIFIC NAME Parastichopus parvamensis

PHYLUM Echinodermata
CLASS Holothuroidea
ORDER Aspidochirotida
FAMILY Stichopodidae

DISTRIBUTION

Monterey Bay to Punta San Bartolome (Baja California). Uncommon and found only subtidally north of Point Conception.

HABITAT

Common on sandy or sandy-mud surfaces and between rocks in the low intertidal zone of bays, and well-protected rocky shores from the subtidal to at least 27 m on rocks, pilings, sandy or mud bottom, and in tropical regions, in seagrass beds.

DIET

Organic detritus and small organisms, which it ingests through bottom sediments.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code 8405-8405.4. Sea cucumbers shall not be taken, possessed aboard a boat, or landed by a person for commercial purposes except under a valid sea cucumber permit issued to that person...Section 8496(c). Any amount of sea cucumbers may be possessed by a person who holds a valid sea cucumber permit...Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 123. To take mollusks, crustaceans, or other invertebrates for commercial purposes in any tide pool or tidal area, including tide flats or other area between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft below the low tide mark, revocable permits may be issued by the department...Also see Section 123(d).

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.10. Except as otherwise provided in this article, there are no closed seasons, closed hours or minimum size limits for any invertebrate. Section 29.10(b). Tidal invertebrates may not be taken in any tidepool or other areas between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft. seaward and lateral to the low tide mark. Also see Section 29.10(b-d).

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Red Sea Urchin

SCIENTIFIC NAME Strongylocentrotus franciscanus

PHYLUM Echinodermata
CLASS Echinoidea
ORDER Echinoida

FAMILY Strongylocentrotidae

DISTRIBUTION

N Japan and Alaska to Isla Cedros (Baja California).

HABITAT

Uncommon in very low intertidal zone on open, coastal rocky shore; more abundant subtidally, and extending to depths of 90 m.

DIET

Brown and red algae, particularly *Macrocystis*.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

The red urchin breeds in the spring. The main spawning is in April and May. winter spawning has been reported in S California. The free-swimming larval period lasts 62-131 days under aquarium conditions. Juveniles are often found beneath the outspread spines of adults.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 9054. Sea urchins shall not be taken for commercial purposes except under a valid sea urchin diving permit....Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 120.7. Season: Nov 1 - Mar 31: 7 d/wk; Apr and Oct: MTWTh, May and Sept; MTWTh except closed during the second full week, June and Aug: MTW except closed during the second full week. July: MT except closed during second full week. During any closed period, no red sea urchins may be possessed on any commercially registered vessel... Size: In S California, no red sea urchin between 1.5 and 3.25 inches in shell diameter, not including the spines, may be taken, possessed, sold, or purchased, except that not more than 30 such urchins per permit per load may be taken, possessed, sold, or purchased. Red sea urchins less than 1.5 inches in shell diameter shall not be considered as part of the 30 undersized red sea urchins per permit.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.10. Except as otherwise provided in this article, there are no closed seasons, closed hours or minimum size limits for any invertebrate. Section 29.10 (b). Tidal invertebrates may not be taken in any tidepool or other areas between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft. seaward and lateral to the low tide mark. Also see Section 29.10 (b-d).

REFERENCES

Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING

Commercial importance. Habitat-forming species.

COMMON NAME Purple Sea Urchin

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Strongylocentrotus purpuratus

PHYLUM Echinodermata
CLASS Echinoidea
ORDER Echinoida

FAMILY Strongylocentrotidae

DISTRIBUTION

Vancouver Island (British Columbia) to Isla Cedros (Baja California).

HABITAT

Common in lower intertidal zone on rocky shores and pilings typically in areas of moderate to strong wave action; subtidal to 160 m.

DIET

Brown and red algae, particularly *Macrocystis*.

PREDATORS

Sea stars (*Pycnopodia helianthoides* and *Astrometis sertulifera*), some fishes (especially California Sheephead), and the southern sea otter.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Purple urchins become sexually mature during their second year when they are 25 mm or more. Most spawning usually occurs in the first 3 months of the year. Growth of normal juveniles after metamorphosis is slow. Some larger individuals may be 10 years old and approximately 5% of the animals in some areas may be over 30 years old.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 9054. Sea urchins shall not be taken for commercial purposes except under a valid sea urchin diving permit....Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 120.7. Season: Nov 1 - Mar 31: 7 d/wk; Apr and Oct: MTWTh, May and Sept; MTWTh except closed during the second full week, June and Aug: MTW except closed during the second full week. July: MT except closed during second full week.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.10. Except as otherwise provided in this article, there are no closed seasons, closed hours or minimum size limits for any invertebrate. Section 29.10 (b). Tidal invertebrates may not be taken in any tidepool or other areas between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft. seaward and lateral to the low tide mark. Also see Section 29.10 (b-d).

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Habitat-forming species.

Indicator or sensitive species.

COMMON NAME Pink Abalone
SCIENTIFIC NAME Haliotis corrugata

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Gastropoda

ORDER Archaeogastropoda

FAMILY Haliotidae

DISTRIBUTION

Point Conception, California to Santa Maria Bay, Baja California, including the Channel Islands and Guadalupe Island.

HABITAT

Subtidal zone from 6-60 m, on exposed rock surfaces in protected bays and open coast, commonly in beds of giant kelp.

DIET

Pieces of drifting algae, mainly the brown alga *Eisenia* and red alga *Plocamium*, but also brown algae *Macrocystis*, *Dictyopteris* and *Pachydictyon*.

BREEDING ACTIVITY

Some evidence indicates that the pink abalone may spawn twice a year, first in late winter and then again in early spring. Females produce 2,000,000 eggs per year. The larvae are free-swimming and tend to settle where adults are common, and recruitment of young from the plankton is poor in apparently suitable areas where the adult population has been depleted.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 7855. Abalone shall not be possessed aboard a commercial fishing vessel while that vessel is on a commercial fishing trip. Also see sections 2371, 5520-5522, 7149.8, 7400, 8040-8070, 10650-10667, and 12000-12026.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 100. Abalone may not be taken for commercial purposes.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.15 (a). Abalone may only be taken north of a line drawn due west magnetic from the center of the mouth of San Francisco Bay. No abalone may be taken, landed, or possessed if landed south of this line.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial importance.

Exhibited rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Black Abalone

SCIENTIFIC NAME Haliotis cracherodii

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Gastropoda

ORDER Archaeogastropoda

FAMILY Haliotidae

FEDERAL STATUS Candidate
DATE LISTED 1-1-00

DISTRIBUTION

Mendocino County, California to southern Baja California.

HABITAT

Common under large rocks and in crevices in the high intertidal zone down to 6 m depth; most abundant intertidally.

DIET

Large brown algae and many other plants.

PREDATORS

Octopuses, sea stars (Pisaster ochraceus), cabezon, sea otters, and man.

BREEDING ACTIVITY

Mature eggs are most abundant in females in the summer (July to September); a smaller peak occurs in January. The summer spawning is conspicuous and more or less synchronous at any given location. Species settle as plankton and reach a length of 20-30 mm within 1 year.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 7855. Abalone shall not be possessed aboard a commercial fishing vessel while that vessel is on a commercial fishing trip. Also see sections 2371, 5520-5522, 7149.8, 7400, 8040-8070, 10650-10667, and 12000-12026.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 100. Abalone may not be taken for commercial purposes.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.15 (a). Abalone may only be taken north of a line drawn due west magnetic from the center of the mouth of San Francisco Bay. No abalone may be taken, landed, or possessed if landed south of this line.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980 **CRITERIA FOR LISTING** Candidate species.

Exhibited rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Green Abalone
SCIENTIFIC NAME Haliotis fulgens

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Gastropoda

ORDER Archaeogastropoda

FAMILY Haliotidae

DISTRIBUTION Point Conception to Bahia Magdalena (Baja California).

HABITAT Low intertidal zone and subtidally down to 30 ft

(10 m). Commonly in crevices where surfgrass and algal cover is dense. Commonest at 2-3 m in deep crevices

exposed to strong wave action.

DIET Larger drifting algae, particularly *Gelidium*, *Pterocladia*,

Plocamium, and Gigartina.

REMARKS Fairly common. Size to 25 cm, commonly less than 20 cm.

BREEDING ACTIVITY Spawning occurs from early summer to early fall. Females

shed 2-3.5 million eggs per year. Larvae settle after a short pelagic period. Juvenile abalones live in protected areas. At 1-2 yrs they settle more or less permanently. Sexual

maturity is attained at 5-7 yrs.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 7855. Abalone shall not be

possessed aboard a commercial fishing vessel while that vessel is on a commercial fishing trip. Also see sections 2371, 5520-5522, 7149.8, 7400, 8040-8070, 10650-10667,

and 12000-12026.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 100. Abalone may not be taken

for commercial purposes.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 29.15 (a). Abalone may only be taken north of a

line drawn due west magnetic from the center of the mouth of San Francisco Bay. No abalone may be taken, landed, or

possessed if landed south of this line.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

REGULATIONS

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial importance.

Exhibited rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Red Abalone
SCIENTIFIC NAME Haliotis rufescens

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Gastropoda

ORDER Archaeogastropoda

FAMILY Haliotidae

REGULATIONS

DISTRIBUTION Sunset Bay (Oregon) to Bahia Tortugas (Baja California)

HABITAT Intertidal zone in rocky areas with heavy surf, more

abundant offshore to depths of over 180 m, with maximum

concentration between 6-17 m.

DIET Microscopic plants and red, brown and green algae.

REMARKS Uncommon. Size to at least 11.76 inches, commonly 6-8

inches. World's largest abalone. Most desirable

commercially for size and light meat color. May recolonize depleted areas more rapidly than other species. Object of

aquaculture in California.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 7855. Abalone shall not be

possessed aboard a commercial fishing vessel while that vessel is on a commercial fishing trip. Also see sections 2371, 5520-5522, 7149.8, 7400, 8040-8070, 10650-10667,

and 12000-12026.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 100. Abalone may not be

taken for commercial purposes.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 29.15 (a). Abalone may only be taken north of a

line drawn due west magnetic from the center of the mouth of San Francisco Bay. No abalone may be taken, landed,

or possessed if landed south of this line.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial importance.

Exhibited rapid decline.

COMMON NAME White Abalone SCIENTIFIC NAME Haliotis sorenseni

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Gastropoda

ORDER Archaeogastropoda

FAMILY Haliotidae

FEDERAL STATUS Candidate
DATE LISTED 1-1-00

DISTRIBUTION Point Conception, California to Bahia Tortugas, Baja

California. Mostly found at the Channel Islands.

HABITAT Subtidal zone from 25-66 m (80-200 ft).

Commonly in open, exposed areas.

DIET Microscopic plants and red, brown and green algae.

REMARKS Size to 10 inches, commonly 5-8 inches.

Desirable for it's tender meat.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 7855. Abalone shall not be **REGULATIONS** possessed aboard a commercial fishing vessel while that

possessed aboard a commercial fishing vessel while that vessel is on a commercial fishing trip. Also see sections 2371, 5520-5522, 7149.8, 7400, 8040-8070, 10650-10667,

and 12000-12026.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 100. Abalone may not be

taken for commercial purposes.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 29.15(a). Abalone may only be taken north of a

line drawn due west magnetic from the center of the mouth of San Francisco Bay. No abalone may be taken, landed,

or possessed if landed south of this line.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial importance.

Candidate species. Exhibited rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Owl Limpet
SCIENTIFIC NAME Lottia gigantea

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Gastropoda

ORDER Archaeogastropoda

FAMILY Acmaeidae

DISTRIBUTION Neah Bay (Washington) to Bahia de Tortuga (Baja

California).

HABITAT Common on cliff faces and rocks of surf-beaten shores,

high and middle intertidal zone.

DIET Algae.

BREEDING ACTIVITY Lottia probably breed in the fall and early winter in

California (September through January).

REMARKS Lottia exhibits clear territorial behavior, removing other

grazers by rasping them off with the radula or pushing them, using the shell like a bulldozer. When *Lottia* is removed from its territory, other grazing limpets move in; their density soon equals that in outside areas, and the algal

patch, as a distinctive area, entirely disappears.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Provides habitat for other species.

Indicator or sensitive species.

COMMON NAME Wavy Turban Snail **SCIENTIFIC NAME** Lithopoma undosa

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Gastropoda

ORDER Archaeogastropoda

FAMILY Turbinidae

DISTRIBUTION Point Conception (Santa Barbara Co.) to Isla Asuncion

(Baja California).

HABITAT Among low intertidal rocks, commoner near subtidal kelp

beds. Larger animals are usually found only subtidally in

kelp beds.

REMARKS Little is known about their biology.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Indicator or sensitive species.

COMMON NAME Kellet's Whelk SCIENTIFIC NAME Kelletia kellettii

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Gastropoda
ORDER Neogastropoda
FAMILY Buccinidae

DISTRIBUTION Point Conception (Santa Barbara Co.) to Isla Asuncion

(Baja California).

HABITAT Rare, under rock ledges, low intertidal zone; common

subtidally to 70 m on rocky reefs and gravel bottoms and

below offshore kelp beds.

DIET Dead or injured animals on the sea floor. Often feeds on

with the predatory sea star Pisaster giganteus on common

food items.

BREEDING ACTIVITY The snails mate in March or April, spawning usually

occurs in April regardless of water temperature. During spawning the snails aggregate into groups of up to 20 individuals. Eggs are deposited in capsules secured to the rocks and over a 30 day period, a single female has been observed to produce up to 85 egg capsules. Each capsule may contain 1,000 eggs. Fertile eggs develop into velinger larvae in 30-34 days after spawning at 14-17oC, and the larvae swim free when the gelatinous plug at the end of the

capsule dissolves.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Indicator or sensitive species.

COMMON NAME California Mussel
SCIENTIFIC NAME Mytilus californianus

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Bivalvia
ORDER Mytiloida
FAMILY Mytilidae

DISTRIBUTION

Aleutian Islands (Alaska) to southern Baja California.

HABITAT

Abundant. Attached in massive beds on surf-exposed rocks and wharf piles, mainly in the upper-middle intertidal zone on outer coast; subtidal and offshore to 24 m depth.

DIET

Mussels eat fine organic detritus suspended in seawater and plankton, particularly dinoflagellates. When submerged, the animals open the valves slightly and use ciliary currents to move water through the gills. Suspended food is filtered out, caught in mucus, and transported by other cilia to the palps and then to the mouth. Animals living at the lowest part of the bed in the intertidal zones are submerged more of the time, get more food, have higher respiratory and metabolic rates, grow more rapidly, reach larger size, and have relatively heavier shells than those high in the bed.

REMARKS

One of the most common invertebrates on surf-swept rocks along the California shores. The animals are firmly rooted to the rocks and to each other by byssal fibers. Small animals seem to be able to break the byssal threads and move about a bit, both up and down and horizontally in the beds. Some spawning occurs all year, but breeding peaks are in July and December in California.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8344. Mussels may be taken only in accordance with such regulations as the commission may prescribe. Also see Sections 2850-2863, 5669-5675, 5700-5702, 7880-7892, and 9000-9024. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 123. To take mollusks, crustaceans, or other invertebrates for commercial purposes in any tide pool or tidal area, including tide flats or other area between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft below the low tide mark, revocable permits may be issued by the department...

SPORT REGULATIONS

Limit: 10 lbs. (in the shell) of California sea mussels and bay mussels in combination.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

Provides habitat for other species.

COMMON NAME Rock Scallop

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Hinnites giganteus (multirugosus)

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Bivalvia
ORDER Pterioida
FAMILY Pectinidae

DISTRIBUTION

Queen Charlotte Islands (British Columbia) to Punta Abreojos (Baja California).

HABITAT

Common in rock crevices along exposed outer coast, underneath floats and on pilings in bays, low intertidal zone to subtidal depths of 50 m. Adults cemented to the substratum, juveniles free.

DIET

The rock scallop is highly prized as food, being eaten raw or fried. Heavy collecting by clammers and divers has depleted the population in many areas.

REMARKS

The juvenile stages can swim by clapping the valves together repeatedly and spurting jets of water outward on either side of the hinge. At rest the juvenile may attach temporarily by secreting a few byssal threads. After attaining a diameter of 25 mm the animal cements the right valve to the rocks and thereafter grows and lives as a sessile organism. Once attached, the scallop grows slowly and may take 25 years or more to reach full size. Spawning occurs in April.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code 8345. It is unlawful for any person to sell or purchase any rock scallops (*Hinnites multirugosus*) or scallops except that scallops pursuant to Division 12 (commencing with section 15000) which may be sold or purchased subject to regulations of the commission. Also see sections 2850-2863, 5669-5675, 5700-5702, 7880-7892, and 9000-9024.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 123. To take mollusks, crustaceans, or other invertebrates for commercial purposes in any tide pool or tidal area, including tide flats or other area between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft below the low tide mark, revocable permits may be issued by the department...

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.60(a). Limit: 10. (b) Rock scallops may be taken only by hand, by the use of dive knives, or by devices commonly known as abalone irons in compliance with provisions of Section 29.15(e) of these regulations.

REFERENCES

Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING

Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Pismo Clam
SCIENTIFIC NAME Tivela stultorum

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Bivalvia
ORDER Veneroida
FAMILY Veneridae

DISTRIBUTION

Half Moon Bay (San Mateo Co.) to Bahia Magdalena (Baja California).

HABITAT

Low intertidal zone and offshore to 25 m depth on broad sandy beaches exposed to strong surf.

DIET

Very fine detritus particles and minute planktonic organisms.

REMARKS

The best intertidal collecting localities in the past were the beaches of Monterey Bay from Santa Cruz to Elkhorn Slough, and those at Pismo Beach and Morro Bay. From 1916 to 1947, some 50,000 clams per year were collected by commercial diggers, and in one record year (1918) 350,000 clams were taken, mainly from Pismo Beach and Morro Bay. In recent years there has been a disastrous decline in the intertidal population of these clams; in 1973 only 21 legal sized clams were taken from Pismo Beach and fewer still in Morro Bay.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code 8340. Except as otherwise provided by this article, in Districts 8, 9, and 17, clams may be taken between Sept 1 and April 30, and in other districts, clams may be taken at any time. Section 8346. It is unlawful for any person to sell or purchase any pismo clams taken in this State. Section 7290. No pismo clam not in the shell may be possessed, except when it is being prepared for immediate consumption. Also see Sections 2368-2369, 10500, and 10711.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.40A. May be taken in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties Sept 1 through April 30. May be taken in all other counties year round except in clam preserves and marine life refuges. Section 29.40B. Limit 10. Section 29.40C. Minimum size: 5 inches in greatest shell diameter; 4½ inches in greatest shell diameter south of the boundary, between San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties.

REFERENCES

Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING

Commercial importance. Exhibited rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Geoduck Clam
SCIENTIFIC NAME Panopea generosa

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Bivalvia
ORDER Myoida
FAMILY Hiatellidae

DISTRIBUTION

Forrester Island (Alaska) to Scammon Lagoon (Baja California). Common farther north.

HABITAT

In burrows, low intertidal zone and subtidal waters in sandy mud of protected bays.

DIET

Very fine detritus particles and minute planktonic organisms.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

In British Columbia, these clams spawn in April and early May. Growth is slow, and the animals may live for 15-16 years and weight 6 kg or more.

REMARKS

The largest and deepest-dwelling of the California burrowing clams, sometimes found in permanent burrows 1.3 m deep, with the long siphons reaching to the mud surface. Prized for food, but difficult to unearth.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code 8340. Except as otherwise provided by this article, in Districts 8, 9, and 17, clams may be taken between Sept 1 and April 30, and in other districts, clams may be taken at any time.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.40A. May be taken in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties Sept 1 through April 30. May be taken in all other counties year round except in clam preserves and marine life refuges. Section 29.40B. Limit 10. Section 29.40C. Minimum size: 5 inches in greatest shell diameter; 4½ inches in greatest shell diameter south of the boundary, between San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties.

REFERENCES

Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING

Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Market Squid
SCIENTIFIC NAME Loligo opalescens

PHYLUM Mollusca
CLASS Cephalopoda
ORDER Decapoda
FAMILY Loliginidae

DISTRIBUTION

Southern British Columbia to Isla Guadalupe (Mexico) and Bahia Asuncion (Baja California).

HABITAT

Pelagic in open coastal waters, returning to school and spawn on muddy sand in shallow inshore areas.

DIET

Shrimplike crustaceans (e.g. euphausiids and mysids), fishes, benthic polychaete worms, and their own young.

REMARKS

S California squid populations spawn mainly in the winter (December through March) but they may also spawn in July. Females produce numerous, large, cylindrical capsules, each containing 100-300 eggs, fastening the egg cases to the bottom or to other egg cases. Development is direct, and small juveniles emerge after 3-4 weeks. Adults die after spawning. Most spawning squid appear to be about 3 years old.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code 8421(b). A commercial market squid vessel permit shall be issued only for vessels employing dip, purse seine, or lampara nets for the taking of market squid for commercial purposes. No permit is required for any vessel taking or landing market squid for commercial purposes if the amount taken by the vessel does not exceed two tons landed in any calendar day or if the squid is used for live bait only...Also see sections 8420-8429.7, and 8399.1.

Fish and Game Code 8420.5 and Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 149. North of a line extending due west magnetic from Point Conception, market squid may be taken for commercial purposes only between noon on Sunday and noon on Friday of each week.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.70. May be taken with hand-held dip nets. There is no limit.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING

Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME California Spiny Lobster SCIENTIFIC NAME Panulirus interruptus

PHYLUM Arthropoda
CLASS Crustacea
ORDER Decapoda
FAMILY Palinuridae

DISTRIBUTION

San Luis Obispo County to Bahia Rosalia (Baja California).

HABITAT

Found in rocky areas, sheltering under rocks and in crevices and caves during the day and emerging at night. Low intertidal to 200 ft (60 m).

DIET

Hard-shelled prey.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code 8251. Spiny lobsters may be taken only between the first Wed in Oct and the first Wed after Mar 15. Section 8252. No spiny lobster less than 3.25 inches in length...may be taken, possessed, purchased, or sold. Section 8254(a). Lobsters shall not be taken for commercial purposes except under a valid lobster permit. Also see Sections 7256, 8250-8259, 9000-9024.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 122. No lobster trap used under authority of a lobster permit shall be pulled or raised or placed in the water between 1 h before sunset and 1 h before sunrise. All lobster traps and receivers impounding lobsters shall be individually buoyed; each buoy identifying a lobster trap shall display the commercial fishing license number. No lobster trap shall be used within 750 ft of any publicly owned pier, wharf, jetty, or breakwater; however such traps may be used within 75 ft of any privately owned pier, wharf, jetty, or breakwater. No lobster traps shall be set or operated within 250 ft of the following specified navigation channels.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code 7256. Spiny lobster may not be taken under a sport fishing license except by use of a hoop net or by hand.

Section 29.90A. Season: From the Sat preceding the first Wed in Oct through the first Wed after Mar 15. Section 29.90B. Limit 7. Section 29.90C. Minimum size: 3 1/4 inches.

REFERENCES

NMFS, Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING

Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Red Rock Shrimp
SCIENTIFIC NAME Lysmata californica

PHYLUM Arthropoda
CLASS Crustacea
ORDER Decapoda
FAMILY Hippolytidae

DISTRIBUTION

Santa Barbara (California) to Bahia Sebastian Vizcaino (Baja California).

HABITAT

Often common among rocks and algae in low intertidal pools and crevices; subtidal to over 60 m.

DIET

Moves over the surface of other animals picking off almost anything removable, including parasites and decaying tissue.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8591. Prawns or shrimp may be taken for commercial purposes under the regulations of the commission. Section 8593. Except where provided in this article, prawns or shrimp may be taken in any waters of the State. Section 8594. From Point Conception south to the Mexican border, prawns or shrimp may be taken with prawn or shrimp traps only in waters 50 fathoms or greater in depth. Section 8595(a). Prawns or shrimp may be taken for commercial purposes with a trawl net, subject to Article 10 of Chapter 3, or either a prawn trap or a shrimp trap, subject to Article 1 of Chapter 4. Also see Sections 8830-8843, 8596-8598.6, 8601-8609, 9000-9024, and 15000-15007. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 102.1. Method: Otter trawl or a beam trawl net. Section 120(e). Permit Areas: Not less than 3 nautical miles from the nearest point of land on the mainland shore, all offshore islands and the boundary line of district 19A. Section 120(f). Season: April 1 through October 31. Also see Sections 120(i-j).

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.80 (a). Saltwater crustaceans may be taken by hand. Nets, traps, or other appliances may not be used except provided in this section. Section 29.80 (f). Shrimp and prawn traps may be used to take shrimp and prawns only. Trap openings may not exceed 0.5 in. in any dimension on traps used south of Point Conception nor 5 in. in any dimension north of Point Conception. Also see Sections 29.80 (g-j).

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Spot Prawn

SCIENTIFIC NAME Pandalus platyceros

PHYLUM Arthropoda
CLASS Crustacea
ORDER Decapoda
FAMILY Hippolytidae

DISTRIBUTION

Northeast Pacific Ocean from southern Alaska to southern California and also in Asian waters around the Sea of Japan.

HABITAT

Rocky bottom from intertidal to over 250 fm in depth.

DIET

Shrimp, worms, sponges, small mollusks, fish carcasses, and plankton.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8591. Prawns or shrimp may be taken for commercial purposes under the regulations of the commission. Section 8593. Except where provided in this article, prawns or shrimp may be taken in any waters of the State. Section 8594. From Point Conception south to the Mexican border, prawns or shrimp may be taken with prawn or shrimp traps only in waters 50 fathoms or greater in depth. Section 8595(a). Prawns or shrimp may be taken for commercial purposes with a trawl net, subject to Article 10 of Chapter 3, or either a prawn trap or a shrimp trap, subject to Article 1 of Chapter 4. Also see Sections 8830-8843, 8596-8598.6, 8601-8609, 9000-9024, and 15000-15007.

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REFERENCES http://www.hmsc.orst.edu/odfw/devfish/sp/

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Ridgeback shrimp SCIENTIFIC NAME Sicyonia ingentis

PHYLUM Arthropoda
CLASS Crustacea
ORDER Decapoda
FAMILY Hippolytidae

DISTRIBUTION

Monterey, California to Cedros Island, Baja California. The fishery is centered in the Santa Barbara Channel and off Santa Monica Bay.

REPRODUCTION

Females reach a maximum carapace length of 1.8 inches, and males 1.5 inches. Sexes are separate and the shrimp are free spawners and do not carry their eggs. Studies suggest that ridgeback shrimp undergo multiple spawning during June through October. Following spawning, both sexes molt and continue molting through winter and spring.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8591. Prawns or shrimp may be taken for commercial purposes under the regulations of the commission. Section 8593. Except where provided in this article, prawns or shrimp may be taken in any waters of the State. Section 8594. From Point Conception south to the Mexican border, prawns or shrimp may be taken with prawn or shrimp traps only in waters 50 fathoms or greater in depth. Section 8595(a). Prawns or shrimp may be taken for commercial purposes with a trawl net, subject to Article 10 of Chapter 3, or either a prawn trap or a shrimp trap, subject to Article 1 of Chapter 4. Also see Sections 8830-8843, 8596-8598.6, 8601-8609, 9000-9024, and 15000-15007.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 102.1. Method: Otter trawl or a beam trawl net. Section 120(e). Permit Areas: Not less than 3 nautical miles from the nearest point of land on the mainland shore, all offshore islands and the boundary line of district 19A. Section 120(f). Season: April 1 through October 31. Also see Sections 120(i-j).

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.80 (a). Saltwater crustaceans may be taken by hand. Nets, traps, or other appliances may not be used except provided in this section. Section 29.80 (f). Shrimp and prawn traps may be used to take shrimp and prawns only. Trap openings may not exceed 0.5 in. in any dimension on traps used south of Point Conception nor 5 in. in any dimension north of Point Conception. Also see Sections 29.80 (g-j).

REFERENCES Sunada and Richards, 1992

http://www.seafood.ucdavis.edu/pubs

CRITERIA FOR LISTING

Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Red Crab

SCIENTIFIC NAME Cancer productus

PHYLUM Arthropoda
CLASS Crustacea
ORDER Decapoda
FAMILY Cancridae

DISTRIBUTION

Kodiak, Alaska to San Diego.

HABITAT

Found from the middle intertidal to 79 m (260 ft). Occurs on a wide range of substrate types, but is most common in gravelly areas and on well-protected boulder beaches. Primarily in bays and estuaries, but also on protected rocky coasts.

DIET

A voracious predator, using its powerful claws to open clams, snails, mussels, and barnacles, and to catch smaller crabs.

REMARKS

Mating occurs when females are soft-shelled during the summer months. Ovigerous females occur from January to August (especially April to June) in S California. Juvenile crabs are common in S California in fall and winter.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 123. To take mollusks, crustaceans, or other invertebrates for commercial purposes in any tide pool or tidal area, including tide flats or other area between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft below the low tide mark, revocable permits may be issued by the department...Section 123 (d). Commercial fishermen taking only...crab...need not possess the permit as required in this section, but must have the appropriate permits to take such species as required by Fish and Game Code Sections 8254, 8306.8, 8396, 9001, and 9054, and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 29.85(b). All crabs in the *Cancer* genus, except Dungeness crabs, but including: yellow crabs, rock crabs, red crabs, and slender crabs: (1) Open season: all year. (2) Limit 35. (3) Minimum size: 4 inches.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Rock Crab

SCIENTIFIC NAMECancer antennarius

PHYLUM Arthropoda
CLASS Crustacea
ORDER Decapoda
FAMILY Cancridae

DISTRIBUTION Coos Bay (Oregon) to Baja California.

HABITAT Common in some areas, low intertidal region on rocky

shores; subtidal around bases of kelp and on gravel

bottoms to 40 m depth.

DIET Both a scavenger and an active predator, eating a wide

variety of other animals.

REMARKS Mating occurs after female crabs molt and while they are

still soft-shelled. Ovigerous females are most common from November to January, but a few may be found at

other seasons in Southern California.

COMMERCIAL Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 123. To take mollusks,

REGULATIONS crustaceans, or other invertebrates for commercial

purposes in any tide pool or tidal area, including tide flats or other area between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft below the low tide mark, revocable permits may be issued

by the department...Section 123 (d). Commercial

fishermen taking only...crab...need not possess the permit as required in this section, but must have the appropriate permits to take such species as required by Fish and Game Code Sections 8254, 8306.8, 8396, 9001, and 9054, and

regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 29.85(b). All crabs in the *Cancer* genus, except

Dungeness crabs, but including: yellow crabs, rock crabs, red crabs, and slender crabs: (1) Open season: all year. (2)

Limit 35. (3) Minimum size: 4 inches.

REFERENCES NMFS, Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Limited sport fishery.

COMMON NAME Sheep Crab

SCIENTIFIC NAME Loxorhynchus grandis

PHYLUM Arthropoda
CLASS Crustacea
ORDER Decapoda
FAMILY Majidae

DISTRIBUTION Cordell Bank (Marin County) to Punta San Bartolome

(Baja California).

HABITAT Occasional, low intertidal zone on a variety of substrates;

characteristically subtidal (6 m) to depth of 124 m.

DIET Algae, sponges, small crustaceans, erect bryozoan

colonies, and several other invertebrates.

REMARKS Slow-moving crabs covered with foreign growth, such as

hydroids, anemones, seaweeds, bryozoans, and sponges.

COMMERCIAL Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 123. To take mollusks, **REGULATIONS** crustaceans, or other invertebrates for commercial

crustaceans, or other invertebrates for commercial purposes in any tide pool or tidal area, including tide flats

or other area between the high tide mark and 1,000 ft below the low tide mark, revocable permits may be issued

by the department...Section 123 (d). Commercial

fishermen taking only...crab...need not possess the permit as required in this section, but must have the appropriate permits to take such species as required by Fish and Game Code Sections 8254, 8306.8, 8396, 9001, and 9054, and

regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 29.85(b). All crabs in the *Cancer* genus, except

Dungeness crabs, but including: yellow crabs, rock crabs, red crabs, and slender crabs: (1) Open season: all year. (2)

Limit 35. (3) Minimum size: 4 inches.

REFERENCES Morris et al. 1980

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Leopard Shark

SCIENTIFIC NAME Triakis semifasciata

PHYLUM Chordata

CLASS Chondrichthyes
ORDER Carcharhiniformes

FAMILY Triakididae

DISTRIBUTION

Oregon to Baja and N Gulf of California.

HABITAT

Temperate coastal waters, mainly inshore. Prefers sandy and rock-strewn flat bottom near rocky reefs. Very common in N California bays. Usually at less than 12 ft (3.7 m), but sometimes more than 300 ft (91 m).

DIET

Fishes and invertebrates

REMARKS

Strong-swimming, nomadic, schooling. Schools may visit areas briefly, then depart. Occasionally rests on bottom. Generally timid around divers; not considered dangerous.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8561. (a) Shark and swordfish shall not be taken for commercial purposes with drift gill nets except under a valid drift gill net shark and swordfish permit issued to that person that has not been suspended or revoked and is issued to at least one person aboard the boat. (b) A drift gill net shark and swordfish permit shall not be required for the taking of sharks with drift gill nets with a mesh size smaller than 8 inches in stretched mesh and twine size no. 18 or the equivalent of this twine size or smaller. Section 8388.5. (a) A person shall not take, possess, sell, or purchase for commercial purposes any leopard shark less than 36 inches in total length. Section 8598. (a) Notwithstanding Section 8140 or subdivision (b) of Section 8597, specimens of the following groups or species shall not be taken, possessed aboard a boat, or landed for commercial purposes: (2)(A) All shark and ray eggcases. Also see Sections 7704, 8561-8582, and 8370-8403.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.56A. Limit: 3. Section 28.56B. Minimum size: 36 in.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

COMMON NAME Pacific Angel Shark
SCIENTIFIC NAME Squatina californica

PHYLUM Chordata

CLASS Chondrichthyes
ORDER Squatiniformes
FAMILY Squatinidae

DISTRIBUTION Southern Alaska to Baja California and the Gulf of

California. Rare north of California. Also Peru to

Southern Chile.

HABITAT Offshore and in shallow bays; often on sand or mud

bottom near kelp or rocks, or canyons. 10-150 ft (3-46 m),

but in Gulf of California to 600 ft (183 m).

DIET Fishes.

REMARKS Its powerful jaws can be protruded to capture prey and are

potentially dangerous to fishermen and divers.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

Indicator or sensitive species.

COMMON NAME Soupfin Shark

SCIENTIFIC NAME Galeorhinus galeus

PHYLUM Chordata

CLASS Chondrichthyes
ORDER Carcharhiniformes

FAMILY Triakididae

DISTRIBUTION Nearly worldwide. Northern British Columbia to central

Baja California, Peru and Chile.

HABITAT Offshore, also coastal and in bays; muddy shallows to

1350 ft (411 m). Females usually less than 55 m; males

deeper.

DIET Fishes and squids.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

Indicator or sensitive species.

COMMON NAME Thornback Ray

SCIENTIFIC NAME Platyrhinoidis triseriata

PHYLUM Chordata

CLASS Chondrichthyes
ORDER Squatiniformes
FAMILY Platyrhinidae

DISTRIBUTION Tomales Bay (Northern California) to Baja California,

commonly from southern California southward.

HABITAT Most abundant in waters shallower than 20 ft (6 m), but

found from the surf line to 150 ft (50 m); in or on sand and

mud in shallow, quiet waters.

DIET Worms, crabs, shrimps, and clams.

REMARKS Spawning probably occurs in the

REFERENCES Love 1991.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Recreational importance.

Indicator or habitat species.

COMMON NAME Pacific Herring
SCIENTIFIC NAME Clupea pallasii

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Cluepeiformes
FAMILY Clupeidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Puget Sound. 4 or 8 stocks may have

declined by 0-95% from overharvesting while annual natural mortality has increased from 20% to 80% because of increased pinniped predation mitigated y increase in

local pinniped populations.

DISTRIBUTION Korea and Japan to arctic Alaska and to northern Baja

California.

HABITAT Frequently offshore, but often inshore in harbors and

estuaries during spawning in winter and spring.

COMMERCIAL California Fish and Game Code Section 8552.6, 8688. In **REGULATIONS** Districts 11, 12, and 13, gill nets may be used to take only

Districts 11, 12, and 13, gill nets may be used to take only herring, subject to Article 15 (commencing with Section 8550) of Chapter 2. No gill net may be possessed on any

boat in Districts 11, 12, and 13, except by persons possessing a valid permit aboard boats specifically authorized to take herring during the open seasons

established by the commission.

Title 14. Section 163. (F2) The use of round haul nets to take herring for roe...is prohibited. (B) The total take of herring for the fresh fish market shall not exceed 10 tons

per season.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, West 1997

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Vulnerable species.

COMMON NAME Pacific Sardine
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sardinops sagax

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Clupeiformes
FAMILY Clupeidae

DISTRIBUTION Kamchatka (USSR) to southeast Alaska and southward to

the Guaymas, Mexico and possibly off Peru and Chile. Most of the population is centered from southern

Palifornia gazetherrand

California southward.

HABITAT Sardines are schooling, pelagic fish found from very near

shore to hundreds of miles off the coast.

DIET Sardines feed on various types of plankton, and in turn,

provide food for fish, birds, and marine mammals.

REMARKS Recent studies show that sardines spawn year round with a

peak in the summer and fall. Considerable spawning occurs nearshore, but some probably takes place out to at least 300 miles. Females spawn more than once a season.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code. Section 8152. 8150.7. It is the **REGULATIONS** intent of the Legislature that the sardine resource be

intent of the Legislature that the sardine resource be rehabilitated. During the process of rehabilitation a

small fishery shall be allowed once the spawning population has reached 20,000 tons as determined by the

department during the first60 days of each calendar year. As the spawning population increases, in excess of 20,000 tons, the seasonal quota may also be increased but at such a rate as to allow the continued increase in the spawning population. This process shall continue with the objective

of maximizing the sustained harvest.

Title 14. Section 158.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1991

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

Prey species.

COMMON NAME Northern Anchovy SCIENTIFIC NAME Engraulis mordax

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Clupeiformes
FAMILY Engraulididae

STATUS

DISTRIBUTION Queen Charlotte Island (British Columbia) to the tip of

Baja California and in the Gulf of California, most abundantly from Point Conception to northern Baja

California.

HABITAT From the surface to over 1000 ft (300 m) from the surf

zone out to at least 300 miles, although most live within

100 miles of the shore.

DIET Zooplankton, such as copepods, arrow worms, and krill,

phytoplankton, and small fish. Almost any fish, sea bird,

squid, or marine mammal will eat anchovies.

REMARKS Off southern California, spawning occurs all year with

peaks from December to May. Most fish spawn away from the coast, but some spawning occurs near shore. Most females spawn at night, every day for 6-8 days, during the peak season. Periods of calm water tend to

benefit the young larvae.

COMMERCIALTitle 14. Section 147. Anchovies shall not be taken,
possessed landed or processed for reduction purpose

possessed, landed, or processed for reduction purposes except under revocable permits...B(1). It is unlawful to use a roundhalu net with a wet-stretch mesh size less than 10/16 of an inch. (F3). If the department...does not produce a northern anchovy biomass estimate, total tonnage reserved for a harvest quota is 5,000 tons and is

established on August 1 of each year.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1991

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

Prey species.

COMMON NAME Pacific Cod

SCIENTIFIC NAME Gadus macrocephalus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Gadiformes
FAMILY Gadidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Puget Sound. Populations have declined by

80-90% since 1970s. No indication of recovery despite fisheries regulations. Recovery may be hampered by warming waters. Other populations not at risk.

DISTRIBUTION Japan to Bering Sea and to Santa Monica, California. Rare

south of northern California.

HABITAT Usually near the bottom; wide ranging from 12-550 m.

Usually shallower in spring and deeper in fall.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Palsson et al. 1997, West 1997,

Wright 1999b.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Vulnerable species.

COMMON NAME California Grunion SCIENTIFIC NAME Leuresthes tenuis

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Antheriniformes
FAMILY Antherinidae

STATUS

DISTRIBUTION San Francisco to southern Baja California. Most abundant

south of Point Conception.

HABITAT Pelagic, schooling fish, usually found from just behind the

surf line to depths of about 40 ft (13 m). Adults do not

seem to migrate much.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Spawns on sandy beaches, out of the water. Spawning

occurs only on 3-4 nights following each full or new moon and then only for 1-3 hours immediately after the high tide, from late February to early September (peaking in early March to early June). Females spawn 4-8 times per

season, at about 15 day intervals, producing 1,000 to 3,000 eggs. Spawning occurs more frequently south of Morro Bay. Eggs remain in the sand until they are liberated

during the next high tide.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8381. It is unlawful to take

REGULATIONS grunion except between June 1st and March 31st.

REFERENCES NMFS, Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1991

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME California Scorpionfish

SCIENTIFIC NAME Scorpaena guttata

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION Santa Cruz (central California) to Gulf of California; rare

north of southern California.

HABITAT Usually in rocky areas of bays and along shore, especially

in caves and crevices; also perch on sand and mud; shallow water to about 600 ft (183 m), but usually above

100 ft (30 m).

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Extensive spawning migrations in late spring and early

summer, when most adults move into 120-360 ft (40-120 m), forming large spawning aggregations on or near the bottom. Spawning occurs in the same areas year after year and it is likely that the same fish return each time. When spawning ends, the aggregations disperse and many of the fish move into shallower waters. Females produce eggs imbedded in gelatinous walls of hollow pear-shaped structures which are transparent or greenish and float near the surface. Within these structures eggs hatch in about 5 days. Young appear in shallow waters in summer and fall

and usually hide on the bottom in heavy cover.

DIET Small crabs, fishes octopi, shrimps, and pebbles.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature **REGULATIONS** finds and declares... that there is increasing pressure being

placed on these [scorpionfish] from recreational and commercial fisheries,...and that, if depleted, many

of these species may take decades to rebuild.

REFERENCES Love 1996, Eschmeyer et al. 1983.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Pacific Ocean Perch
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes alutus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Washington and Oregon. 81-91%

decline from overfishing. Not at risk in Alaska.

DISTRIBUTION Japan and Bering Sea to La Jolla, California. More

common north of Oregon.

HABITAT Abundant offshore, trawled at 44-640 m. Adults usually

below 122 m.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-

8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. Sebastes spp. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the Sebastes complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of Sebastes spp. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no

more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Heifitz et al. 1999, Ianelli and

Zimmerman 1998, Ito et al. 1999.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Vulnerable species.

COMMON NAME Kelp Rockfish

SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes atrovirens

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION

Timber Cove (central California) to central Baja California.

HABITAT

Usually on or near bottom in kelp beds or rocky areas; to 150 ft (46 m), common at 30-40 ft (9-12 m).

DIET

Important foods include small fishes, shrimps, amphipods, and isopods.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Spawning takes place from late winter to early spring, and juveniles settle out of the plankton into kelp beds in the summer, from April through August. Young settle in the fronds of kelp beds and as they grow, they spread out, away from the canopy.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Brown Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes auriculatus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Candidate list (Puget Sound only). Long term decline

since the mid 1980s. Spawner output declined by 80%

between 1989 and 1992. Not at risk in Alaska.

DISTRIBUTION

SE Alaska to central Baja.

HABITAT

Widely distributed in shallow water and bays; near shore and to 420 ft (128 m). Most commonly 20 ft (7 m). Bottom dwellers, living on hard bottom or sand, near structure of some kind, such as rocks, oil platforms, sewer pipes and even old tires. Usually not found on high reefs.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

In central California females spawn from December to July. Females produce 42,000-266,000 eggs. In southern California, females spawn more than once per season. Juveniles gradually move into deeper water as they mature.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Wright 1999b.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Candidate species.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Gopher Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes carnatus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION

Eureka (northern California) to central Baja California. Common from Mendocino County (northern California) south to Santa Monica Bay.

HABITAT

Holes or crevices near the bottom in rocky areas to 180 ft (55 m). More common below 30-120 ft (10-40 m). Solitary and territorial.

DIET

Small fish eat zooplankton, such as copepods and crab larvae. Larger fish eat crabs, shrimps, and occasionally fishes and octopi.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Spawning occurs in spring and the young first appear in kelp beds in May and June. Young live among kelp fronds, later descending down the plant and eventually leaving its protection.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Copper Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes caurinus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Candidate list (Puget Sound only). Long term decline

since the mid 1980s, spawner output declined by 80%

since 1979. Not at risk in Alaska.

DISTRIBUTION

Gulf of Alaska to central Baja. Most abundant from British Columbia to southern California.

HABITAT

Common in rocky or high relief areas such as pinnacles and wrecks or rock-sand bottom in shallow water. Found most commonly from 20-400 ft (6-166 m) but occasionally to 600 ft (183 m). Solitary and territorial. Juveniles live in shallower waters, up to about 20 ft (6 m).

DIET

Juveniles eat plankton; adults feed on snails, worms, squid, octopus, crabs, shrimp, and fishes.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Spawning occurs in late winter to early spring. Young first appear in kelp and other algae in April. Small fish are found near the bottom over sand along rock-sand interfaces.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love, 1991, Wright 1999.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Candidate species.

Exhibited long-term decline.

COMMON NAME Greenspotted Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes chlorostictus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION

Copalis Head (Washington) to central Baja California. Abundant as far north as Monterey Bay.

HABITAT

Solitary and sedentary species that is common on soft bottom from 300-660 ft (49-201 m). Juveniles found most commonly between 100-300 ft (30-100 m). Spends most of its time on or near the bottom over rocks, hard bottom, sand, mud, vertical faces, and horizontal plains.

DIET

Invertebrates, such as crabs and shrimps. Also fishes, squids, and octopi.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Spawning takes place from February to July, peaking in April, off of southern California. Females produce up to 760,000 eggs.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Black and Yellow Rockfish

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Sebastes chrysomelas

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION

Eureka (northern California) to central Baja California. Common southward to San Diego.

HABITAT

Holes and crevices in rocky areas. Intertidal and to 120 ft (37 m). Usually less than 60 ft (18 m).

DIET

Small fish eat zooplankton, such as copepods and crab larvae. Larger fish eat crabs, shrimps, and occasionally fishes and octopi.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Spawning occurs in spring and the young first appear in kelp beds in May and June. Young live among kelp fronds, later descending down the plant and eventually leaving its protection.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Darkblotched Rockfish

SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes crameri

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Washington, Oregon, and California.

77-89% decline.

DISTRIBUTION Bering Sea to Santa Catalina Island (S California).

HABITAT Soft bottom at 30-550 m, but usually deeper than 75 m.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-

8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no

more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Rogers et al. 2000.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Starry Rockfish

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Sebastes constellatus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION

Cordell Bank (northern California) to Thetis Bank (southern Baja California). Common south of Monterey Bay.

HABITAT

Usually on deep reefs at 80-900 ft (24-274 m). Adults are most common 180-450 ft (60-150 m) and juveniles are common from 90-250 ft (30-80 m). Exclusively over hard bottoms, usually around large rocks or wrecks. Live on the bottom and rarely emerge more than a meter above the rocks. Usually solitary, occasionally in small groups. Sedentary.

DIET

Small fishes, crabs, shrimps, and other small invertebrates.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Spawn from February to July in southern California. Females produce up to 230,000 eggs.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Calico Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes dallii

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION San Francisco to central Baja California; rare north of

Santa Barbara.

HABITAT On or near soft bottom at 24-840 ft (8-256 m). Most

abundant 150-300 ft (30-100 m).

DIET Copepods, grammarid amphipods, bivalves and crabs.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Females may be viviparous. Calico rockfish spawn from

January to May, peaking in February. Females produce

3,900-18,000 eggs per season.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-

8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no

more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Widow Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes entromelas

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS

Vulnerable in Washington, Oregon, and California. 81-82% decline.

DISTRIBUTION

Kodiak Island (southeast Alaska) to northern Baja California. Abundant from central California to southern Washington.

HABITAT

Over rocky banks and other hard bottoms (e.g. oil platforms and wrecks); adults at about 80-1200 ft (24-366 m). Almost all adults live from 150-1000 ft (30-333 m). Young in shallow water (often in kelp beds). Often in schools of thousands or tens of thousands.

DIET

Plankton, particularly krill, crab larvae, and salps, and fish such as deep sea lanternfish.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Females spawn December to May, with a February peak. Some females produce over a million eggs. Juveniles settle out of the plankton beginning in April. Reproduction seems most successful during years when there are violent winter storms and above average water temperatures.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Sections 8585.5, 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Clausen and Heifetz 1999,

Williams et al. 2000.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Cowcod

REGULATIONS

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Sebastes levis

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Vulnerable in the U.S. 91-97% decline.

DISTRIBUTION Mendocino (central California) to central Baja and

Guadalupe Island.

HABITAT On bottom at moderate depths to 1200 ft (366 m).

Adults common off S California on deep rocky banks at 500-800 ft (152-244 m); young shallower (100-600 ft or 33 to 100 m). Juveniles commonly live over sand or mud;

adults only inhabit hard or rocky bottoms.

DIET Diet includes mainly fishes, octopus, and squid.

Juvenile cowcod eat copepods, mysid shrimp, small fishes,

and crabs.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Spawning occurs off southern California from November

through May with a January peak. Young of the year

appear on the bottom in May.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Sections 8585.5, 8585-8589.7 and

8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and

trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Butler et al. 1999, Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING

Historical commercial and recreational importance. Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Black Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes melanops

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Puget Sound.

DISTRIBUTION Amchitka Island (Aleutian Islands) to San Miguel Island

(southern California).

HABITAT Wide-ranging, often in schools; lives both off and on

bottom, near surface to 366 m. Occurs near rocky reefs in

shallow water and in open water over deep banks.

PREDATORS Juveniles are important as food for other fishes, marine

mammals, and birds.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-

8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. Sebastes spp. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the Sebastes complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of Sebastes spp. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no

more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Barker 1998, Crawford 1999, Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love

1996, Wright 1999b.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Vermilion Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes miniatus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION Zaikof Bay, Prince William Sound (Alaska) to central Baja

California. Abundant from northern California southward

to Baja.

HABITAT Adults on shallow subtidal waters to deep rocky reefs (less

common on deep reefs); common between 180-750 ft (60-

250 m), but up to 1440 ft (480 m). Young shallow.

DIET Other fishes, such as anchovies, lanternfishes, small

rockfishes), octopi, squids, and krill.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Spawning occurs in southern California from September to

December. A single female may have as many as

2,680,000 eggs. Young of the year are found as early as

February.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Sections 8585.5, 8585-8589.7 and **REGULATIONS** 8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebaste*

8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAMEBlue Rockfish **SCIENTIFIC NAME**Sebastes nystimus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION Vancouver Island to northern Baja California.

Abundant in California and Oregon.

HABITAT Most abundant from 15-200 ft (5-66 m); but have been

found in tide pools to depths of 1,800 ft (600 m).

Midwater or surface dwelling fish, swimming in schools of

hundreds or thousands over reefs and around kelp.

DIET Zooplankton (such as jellyfish, krill, and copepods), fishes,

hydroids, and kelp. Larger individuals may eat fishes.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Females are primitively viviparous; they produce as many

as 300,000 eggs per year. Fertilization is internal and occurs in October. Spawning occurs from November to March with a January-February peak. Young appear in

April in kelp beds over rocky reefs.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Sections 8585.5, 8585-8589.7 and **REGULATIONS** 8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebaste*

8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. Sebastes spp. may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Speckled Rockfish SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes ovalis

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION Northern Washington to northern Baja California, common

from central California southward.

HABITAT Midwater fish over rocks, normally from near the bottom

to about 30 ft (10 m) above the reefs. Commonly between 250-500 ft (86-166 m). Juveniles most common between

100-250 ft (33-86 m).

DIET Plankton and small fishes.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Spawning occurs from October to May, with a peak in

January and February. A single female may have up to

160,000 eggs.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and

trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES NMFS, Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Bocaccio Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes paucispinis

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Washington, Oregon, and California.

96-98% decline.

DISTRIBUTION

Kodiak Island to central Baja California.

HABITAT

Wide-ranging: adults live over rocky reefs but also common on open, rocky bottom; occasionally over sand and mud. Adults from the surface to 1568 ft (533 m), but common between 150-1000 ft (50-333 m). Young shallower (30-90 ft or 10-30 m). Juveniles live under drifting kelp mats which have broken free of beds. As they grow, they swim into deeper waters.

DIET

Diet includes mainly fishes such as surfperch, jack mackerel, sablefish, anchovies, squid, octopus, and crab. Large juveniles eat small fishes, particularly juvenile rockfishes.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Females are primitively viviparous; they produce as many as 2,300,000 eggs per season. Larvae are spawned in 2 or more batches in southern California, from October to July. Young appear in inshore waters in February.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Sections 8585.5, 8585-8589.7, 8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189(b). *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. Of that 150,000 lbs., no more than 2,000 lbs. shall be bocaccio rockfish. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip. For line and pot gear a trip limit of 500 lbs. per trip shall not to exceed 1000 lbs. per month and for set nets a cumulative limit of 2,000 lbs. of bocaccio per mo.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55(a). Bocaccio may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No bocaccio may be taken or possessed that is less than 10 inches in total length.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996, McCall et al. 1999.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Canary Rockfish **SCIENTIFIC NAME** Sebastes pinniger

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Washington, Oregon, and California.

77-93% decline.

DISTRIBUTION Southeastern Alaska to northern Baja California.

HABITAT Rocky bottom at about 91-274 m. Adults shallowest in

northern part of range. Young shallow throughout range.

DIET Small fishes and krill.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7, 8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. Of that 150,000 lbs, no more than 15,000 shall be canary rockfish. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip. Of

rockfish.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. Rockfish may not be taken or possessed

by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

the total quota, not more than 7,500 lbs. shall be canary

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996, O'Connell et al. 1999.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Grass Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes rastrelliger

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION Yaquina Bay (Oregon) to central Baja California.

HABITAT Common on rocky bottom in tidepools and near shore, also

in kelp and eelgrass beds; to 150 ft (46 m) but usually less

than 50 ft (15 m).

DIET Crabs, shrimps, fishes, and octopi.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Spawning occurs in winter and young appear in shallow

water during spring and summer.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7, 8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. Of that 150,000 lbs, no more than 15,000 shall be canary rockfish. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip. Of the total quota, not more than 7,500 lbs. shall be canary

rockfish.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. Rockfish may not be taken or possessed

by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Yelloweye Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes ruberrimus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Puget Sound. Long-term decline, has virtually

disappeared from recreational catches.

DISTRIBUTION Gulf of Alaska to northern Baja California.

HABITAT Rocky reefs at 150-1800 ft (46-549 m).

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus

Sebastes). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than

10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Barker 1998, Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996, Wright

1999b.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Flag Rockfish

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Sebastes rubrivinctus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION San Francisco to northern Baja California.

HABITAT Rocky areas at 100-1380 ft (30-460 m). Adults are strictly

solitary, bottom-dwelling reef fish, often found among sea anemones. Commonly along sewer lines off southern California. Young are often found under drifting kelp mats.

DIET Crabs, shrimps, and occasional fish and octopus.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Probably spawn in the summer. Young appear in August,

leaving drifting kelp mats in January and February.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus

Sebastes). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.* shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than

10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Olive Rockfish

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Sebastes serranoides

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION

Redding Rock (northern California) to central Baja California. Abundant from southern California northward to Mendocino County (northern California).

HABITAT

Shallow water, 10-570 ft (3-190 m). Usually 15-180 ft (5-60 m). Midwater fish that live over hard, high relief (such as reefs, wrecks, oil platforms, or pipes). Form aggregations of several hundred. Young aggregate over low rocks, in areas with reduced water movement, particularly over drift algae, between the bottom and mid-water column. Young descend to the bottom at night.

DIET

Fishes (particularly juvenile rockfish), octopi, squids, and planktonic organisms such as copepods and crab larvae.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Spawning occurs from January to March with a peak in February. Beginning in April, newly settled olive rockfish appear over rocky reefs.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Sections 8585.5, 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Treefish

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Sebastes serriceps

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION San Francisco to central Baja California. Common from

Santa Barbara southward.

HABITAT Solitary, reef-dwelling fish, almost always in caves and

crevices between 20-140 ft (6-46 m) up to 150 ft (50 m).

Young are found drifting in kelp mats.

DIET Invertebrates, such as crabs and shrimp, and small fishes.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Probably spawn in winter.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-8598.6. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp.*

shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Honeycomb Rockfish
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastes umbrosus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

DISTRIBUTION Point Pinos (central California) to south-central Baja

California. Uncommon north of Point Conception.

HABITAT Mid-shallow rocky reefs from 98-390 ft (33-130 m).

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Females spawn from March to July and young settle to the

bottom in the fall.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-

8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no

more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. Sebastes spp. may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Shortspine Thornyhead SCIENTIFIC NAME Sebastolobus alascanus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Scorpaenidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Washington, Oregon, and California.

73% decline.

DISTRIBUTION Bering Sea to northern Baja California.

HABITAT Very common on soft bottom in deep water at 84-5000 ft

(26-1524 m) or deeper but usually below 300 ft (91 m).

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational

fisheries exist on numerous stocks of rockfish (genus *Sebastes*). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 8596-

8598.6.

Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189B. *Sebastes spp*. may not be taken or possessed during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of 36°N lat. No more than 150,000 lbs. of the *Sebastes* complex shall be landed in any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 40,000 lbs. of *Sebastes spp*. shall be landed during any calendar month and for line and trap gear no

more than 10,000 lbs. shall be landed per trip.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.55A. *Sebastes spp.* may not be taken or

possessed by a person aboard a vessel, or by spear fishing during the months of Jan and Feb in ocean waters south of

36°N lat.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996, Rogers et al. 1998.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Lingcod

SCIENTIFIC NAME Ophiodon elongatus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes
FAMILY Hexagrammidae

STATUS Vulnerable in Washington, Oregon, and California.

92.5% decline.

DISTRIBUTION

Kodiak Island (Alaska) to N Baja; possibly Bering Sea. Common from southeast Alaska to central California and the northern Channel Islands.

HABITAT

Adults are bottom-dwelling, near rocks; inshore and to 1620 ft (443 m). Juveniles are pelagic; larger juveniles can be found on sand or mud bottom of bays to 200 ft (66 m) and inshore areas, including eelgrass beds.

DIET

A voracious predator feeds mostly on other fishes, squids and octopi.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Females are oviparous and produce between 6,000-500,000 eggs. Spawns in shallow water in fall or early winter; male guards eggs.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Sections 8691 and 8680-8700. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189(d)(1) Routine Management Measures. No more than 30,000 lbs. shall be landed during any 2-month cumulative fishing period. All lingcod shall be greater than 24 in total length, except 100 lbs. of trawl-caught lingcod less than 24 inches may be landed per trip. Section 189(2) Open Access Fishery. (B). All line, pot, and set net gear: no more than 1,000 lbs. shall be landed in any 2 month fishing period. Fish shall be larger than 24 in. total length.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.27. Open all year except lingcod may not be taken or possessed by a person aboard a vessel or by spear fishing during the months of January and February in the waters south of 36°N latitude at Lopez Point, Monterey. Limit: 2. Minimum size: 26 inches.

Method of take: not more than 3 hooks per line.

REFERENCES Adams et al. 1999, Eschmeyer et al. 1983

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Cabezon

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Scorpaenichthys marmoratus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes

FAMILY Cottidae

DISTRIBUTION

Sitka (Alaska) to central Baja California. Abundant from Washington to southern California.

HABITAT

Hard-bottom dwellers found over natural and artificial reefs, oil platforms, and wrecks. Occasionally venture into the kelp canopy. Intertidal and to 362 ft (120 m). Most common to about 90 ft (30 m).

DIET

Small fish in tide pools eat small crustaceans such as amphipods, shrimp, crabs, and isopods. Adults feed on crabs, fishes, abalone, chitons, and octopi.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Females are oviparous and produce 49,000-98,000 eggs per season; they may spawn twice in the same time. Off california, spawning may occur at low levels throughout the year. Nests are made on exposed surfaces of rocks, intertidal to 55 ft (18 m) and eggs may be exposed at low tide. Young recruit from the plankton into tide pools. Large fish enter the pools at high tide to feed

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8588. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code or any regulation adopted by the commission, no fish listed under this section taken pursuant to a commercial fishing license, shall be possessed, sold, or purchased unless it exceeds the specified minimum total length in the round or dressed with head on, as established under subdivision (b), except that nearshore fin fish taken in trawls and landed dead are exempt from these size limits. (b)(9) Minimum size: 14 in. (356 mm). Also see Sections 8585-8589.7 and 10650-10667.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 28.28A. Limit: 10, Section 28.28B. Min. Size: 14 in.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Giant Sea Bass
SCIENTIFIC NAME Stereolepis gigas

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Sciaenidae

STATUS Threatened in the Gulf of California. Vulnerable within the U.S.

DISTRIBUTION

Humboldt Bay to Gulf of California; rare north of S California.

HABITAT

On rock bottom; near shore, outside kelp beds, and along drops-offs; 18-150 ft (5.5-46 m). Large specimens are usually deeper than 100 ft (30 m); small individuals occur over sand and in kelp beds mainly at 40-70 ft (12-21 m).

DIET

Feed upon a wide variety of items including anchovies, white croakers, sheephead, ocean whitefish, sand bass, *Cancer* crabs and red crabs.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Spawning occurs from July to September. A 320 pound female may contain approximately 60 million eggs. Life span: >70 yrs.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8380(a). Giant seabass may not be taken for any purpose, except that not more than one fish per vessel may be possessed or sold if taken incidentally in commercial fishing operations by gill or trammel net. Any fish so taken shall not be transferred to any other vessel. Also see Section 8051(a)(18).

SPORT REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 7350. Giant seabass may not be taken under a sport fishing license except by hook and line when engaged in the taking of other fish. Section 28.10(a). May not be taken off California. All fish taken incidental to other fishing activity shall be immediately returned to the water where taken. Section 28.10B. Two per angler per trip when fishing south of the United States-Mexico border. A valid fishing permit or license from the Mexican government constitutes proof that fish were taken legally.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME

Broomtail Grouper

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Mycteroperca xenarcha

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Scorpaeniformes

FAMILY Serranidae

STATUS Vulnerable in California.

DISTRIBUTION San Francisco Bay to Peru, including the Galapagos

Islands, rare north of southern California.

HABITAT Inshore and to 70 ft (21 m).

REMARKS Large species with low productivity. Probably aggregates

to spawn, thus vulnerable to overexploitation.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Historical commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Kelp Bass

SCIENTIFIC NAME Paralabrax clathratus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Serranidae

DISTRIBUTION

Columbia River (Washington) to southern Baja California, rare north of southern California.

HABITAT

Usually in or near kelp beds, rocks, sewer pipes, and oil platforms, shallow water and to about 150 ft (46 m) but mostly at 8-70 ft (2.4-21 m). Found throughout the water column; larger specimens usually occur deeper.

DIET

Small shrimp-like crustaceans are very important in the diet of kelp bass of all ages. Larger fish eat more fish, including anchovies and small surfperch.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Spawning occurs from April to November and peaks during summer. Kelp fish form large aggregations and may move into slightly deeper water during spawning. Largest females spawn earliest in the season. Kelp bass eggs are pelagic and after fertilization drift about for 1-2 days before hatching. Larval bass metamorphose into juveniles after about one month. These fish recruit inshore and to kelp and other algae in late summer and fall.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 7856(f). Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, kelp bass shall not be possessed aboard a commercial fishing vessel while that vessel is on a commercial fishing trip. Section 8372. No kelp bass...may be sold or purchased, or possessed in any place where fish are purchased, possessed for sale, or sold...It is unlawful to take, possess, or sell any fish less than 10½ inches. Also see Sections 7856(f), 10664, and 10667.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8385. No person holding a commercial fishing license while on any barge or boat which for hire carries any sport fisherman may take or have in his possession in any one day more than the aggregate number of ...kelp bass.... Section 28.30A. Minimum size: 12 in total or 8.5 in alternate. Section 28.30B. Limit: 10 bass spp.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Recreational importance.

COMMON NAME Ocean Whitefish

SCIENTIFIC NAME Caulolatilus princeps

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Malacanthidae

DISTRIBUTION Vancouver Island to Peru, including Galapagos Islands;

rare north of central California. Common in shallow reefs

off the Channel Islands.

HABITAT Mostly offshore rocky reefs and banks, especially around

islands; usually at 33-300 ft (10-91 m). Common from 90-

200 ft (30-66 m).

DIET Bottom invertebrates, such as worms, shrimp, crabs,

octopi, and squids.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Possibly spawn from early spring to summer, but most

larvae are found off of Baja California.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 27.60 (a). Limit: No more than 20 fin fish in any

combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person

except as otherwise provided.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Recreational importance.

COMMON NAME White Seabass

SCIENTIFIC NAME Atractoscion nobilis

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Sciaenidae

DISTRIBUTION Juneau (Alaska) to southern Baja California and northern

Gulf of California; rare north of Point Conception.

HABITAT Young seabass live in drift algae just behind the surf line

on sand beaches. Older juveniles occupy bays and shallow coastal waters, often near rocks or kelp. Adults are found in schools over rocky bottom and in kelp beds; also in surf

zone to about 400 ft (122 m).

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Spawns March-August, often near kelp beds.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 6596 (c) Any person who takes, possesses aboard a boat, or lands any white seabass for commercial purposes, south of a line extending due west from Point Arguello, shall have a valid commercial ocean fishing enhancement stamp issued to that person that has not been suspended or revoked. Section 8383.5. It is unlawful to take, possess, sell, or purchase any white seabass less than 28 inches in length. Section 8623. (a) It is unlawful to use any purse seine or round haul net to take...white seabass. (b) It is unlawful to possess any...white seabass, except those taken south of the international boundary between the United States and Mexico...Section 8383. White seabass may not be taken for commercial purposes between March 15 and June 15...Also see Sections 2362, 6590, 6596(c), 7051(b), 7059, 7071, 8051, 8576, 9027.5, 10650-10667.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8385. No person holding a commercial fishing license while on any barge or boat which for hire carries any sport fisherman may take or have in his possession in any one day more than the aggregate number of the following kinds of fish permitted in the case of sport fishing: bluefin tuna, yellowfin tuna, skipjack, yellowtail, marlin, broadbill swordfish, black seabass, albacore, barracuda, white seabass, bonito, rock bass, kelp bass, California halibut, California corbina, yellowfin croaker, and spotfin croaker.

Section 28.35C. Limit: 3, except that only 1 fish may be taken in waters south of Point Conception between March 15 and June 15. Section 28.35A. Minimum size: 28 in.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Halfmoon

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Medialuna californiensis

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Kyphosidae

DISTRIBUTION Vancouver Island to Gulf of California; rare north of Point

Conception.

HABITAT Often in rocky areas, kelp, and oil platforms; inshore and

to 130 ft (40 m). Abundant from 10-65 ft (3-31 m).

DIET Algae and small invertebrates.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Females are oviparous and they spawn from April to

October. Halfmoon larvae are found between 150-300 miles offshore. Heaviest larval concentrations are off

northern Baja California.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Recreational importance.

COMMON NAME Black Surfperch
SCIENTIFIC NAME Embiotoca jacksoni

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Embiotocidae

DISTRIBUTION Fort Bragg (northern California) to central Baja California,

including Guadalupe Island.

HABITAT Chiefly rocky areas near kelp; occasionally over sand

bottom of coastal bays and around piers and pilings; rarely in surf. Intertidal to 150 ft (46 m), but usually about 20 ft

(6.1 m). Usually in small groups.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8395. Surfperch of the **REGULATIONS** family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July 1

family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July 16 and April 30. Surfperch may be sold or purchased only between July 16 and May 10. South of a line drawn east and west through Point Arguello, barred surfperch...may not be taken for commercial purposes. Surfperch which have been taken north of the line during the open season and shipped south of the line may be sold or purchased under such regulations as the commission may prescribe.

Also see Sections 10650-10667.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 27.60 (a). Limit: No more than 20 fin fish in any

combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person

except as otherwise provided.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Keystone or dominant species.

COMMON NAME Barred Surfperch

SCIENTIFIC NAME Amphistichus argenteus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Embiotocidae

DISTRIBUTION Northern Washington to Plaza Maria Bay, Baja California.

Common from Santa Cruz southward.

HABITAT Congregate in depressions on the bottom in the surf zone

along sandy beaches less than 20 ft (6 m). Also around piers, in bays and over small sandy beaches which

interrupt rocky shores.

DIET Sand crabs and other crustaceans, bean clams, and

small crabs.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Breeding occurs in November and spawning occurs from

February to July. Females are viviparous. As many as 113

young have been found in one female.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8395. Surfperch of the **REGULATIONS** family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July

family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July 16 and April 30. Surfperch may be sold or purchased only between July 16 and May 10. South of a line drawn east and west through Point Arguello, barred surfperch...may not be taken for commercial purposes. Surfperch which have been taken north of the line during the open season and shipped south of the line may be sold or purchased under such regulations as the commission may prescribe.

Also see Sections 10650-10667.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 27.60 (a). Limit: No more than 20 fin fish in any

combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person

except as otherwise provided.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial and recreational importance.

COMMON NAME Shiner Surfperch

SCIENTIFIC NAME Cymatogaster aggregata

Chordata **PHYLUM** CLASS Osteichthyes **ORDER** Perciformes **FAMILY** Embiotocidae

DISTRIBUTION Occur from Port Wrangell, Alaska, to San Quintin Bay,

Baja California. Abundant south of British Columbia.

HABITAT Prefer calm water and are most abundant in bays around

eelgrass beds and the pilings of wharves and piers.

DIET Copepods, arrow worms, amphipods, fish eggs, small

crustaceans and other invertebrates. Frequently observed

around pier pilings nipping off the appendages of

barnacles

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Mating occurs in June or July, and females store sperm

through the winter. Spawning occurs in April and May

off southern California.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8395. Surfperch of the REGULATIONS

family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July 16

and April 30, except shiner perch (Cymatogaster

aggregata), which may be taken, sold or purchased at any time. Surfperch may be sold or purchased only between July 16 and May 10. Also see Sections 10650-10667.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 27.60(c). There is no limit on shiner surfperch.

Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996. REFERENCES

COMMON NAME Walleye Surfperch

SCIENTIFIC NAME Hyperprosopon argenteum

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Embiotocidae

DISTRIBUTION Vancouver Island (British Columbia) to Point San Rosarito

(Baja California). Common from Washington southward.

HABITAT Found in dense schools along sandy beaches, near rocks,

and around piers. Move over reefs at night. Shallow

waters to 600 ft (200 m).

DIET Krill, amphipods, isopods, and small fishes.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Females are viviparous. Mating occurs in November and

the fish spawn from April to June. A female produces up

to 19 young.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8395. Surfperch of the **REGULATIONS** family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July

family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July 16 and April 30. Surfperch may be sold or purchased only

between July 16 and May 10.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 27.60(a). Limit: No more than 20 fin fish in any

combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person

except as otherwise provided.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

COMMON NAME Silver Surfperch

SCIENTIFIC NAME Hyperprosopon ellipticum

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Embiotocidae

DISTRIBUTION Occur from Rio San Vicente, Baja California, to Schooner

Cove, near Tofino, Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

HABITAT Frequent the sandy surf zone; also caught among the

shallow rocks from piers in bays. Common to 120 m.

DIET Shrimp, crustaceans, clams, amphipods and algae.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Females are viviparous, mating occurs in late September

and October. Off Oregon, the young are born in June to August. Females produce 4 to 16 young per season.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8395. Surfperch of the **REGULATIONS** family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July

family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July 16 and April 30. Surfperch may be sold or purchased only between July 16 and May 10. Also see Sections 10650-

10667

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 27.60 (a). Limit: No more than 20 fin fish in any

combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person

except as otherwise provided.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

COMMON NAME Rubberlip Surfperch
SCIENTIFIC NAME Rhacochilus toxotes

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Embiotocidae

DISTRIBUTION Thurloe Head, Baja California, to Medocino County,

California.

HABITAT Frequently found in rocky areas, tidepools and kelp beds

on the outer coast as well as bays and harbors. Shallow subtidal to 156 ft (52 m). Common from 10-100 ft (3-33

m). Young live in shallow waters in algae.

DIET Adults feed upon crabs, shrimps and octopus. Juveniles

feed on typical surfperch food such as worms, small crabs,

mussels, and tiny snails.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8395. Surfperch of the

REGULATIONS family Embiotocidae may be taken only between July 16

and April 30. Surfperch may be sold or purchased only between July 16 and May 10. Also see Sections 10650-

10667.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 27.60(a). Limit: No more than 20 fin fish in any

combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person

except as otherwise provided.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

COMMON NAME Blacksmith

SCIENTIFIC NAME Chromis punctipinnis

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Pomacentridae

DISTRIBUTION Monterey Bay to central Baja California. Rare north of

Point Conception. However, blacksmith are common at least as far north as Monterey Bay during some years (e.g.

1980).

HABITAT Abundant over structures such as rocky reefs and oil

platforms in nearshore waters from the surface to 150 ft (50 m). During the day large schools, up to hundreds of individuals can be found over most reefs. At night most blacksmith shelter in crevices or on sand near crevices.

DIET Feeds mostly on zooplankton such as copepods, crustacean

larvae and eggs.

REMARKS Blacksmith mature at 2 years of age. Spawning occurs in

summer. The larvae are pelagic and newly recruited juveniles appear in the late summer or early fall. Schools of these very young fish are semi-pelagic, occasionally

entering kelp beds.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1991.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Indicator or sensitive species.

COMMON NAME Garibaldi

SCIENTIFIC NAME Hypsypops rubicundus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Pomacentridae

DISTRIBUTION Monterey Bay to S Baja and Guadalupe Island (off N

central Baja). Rare north of Point Conception.

HABITAT Over rocky bottom in clear water; often near crevices and

small caves, occasionally in kelp. Inshore and to 95 ft (29 m).

DIET Feeds mostly on attached invertebrates.

REMARKS Male clears a sheltered nest site; female deposits eggs,

which male guards.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 8597(a). It is unlawful for **REGULATIONS** any person to take, possess aboard a boat, or land for

any person to take, possess aboard a boat, or land for marine aquaria pet trade purposes...[garibaldi]...unless that person has a valid marine aquaria collector's permit that has not been suspended or revoked. At least one person aboard the boat shall have a valid marine aquaria collector permit. (b) Except as provided in Section 8598.2...[garibaldi]...may be taken, possessed aboard a boat, or landed under a marine aquaria collector's permit.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 28.05. May not be taken or possessed.

REFERENCES NMFS, Eschmeyer et al. 1983

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

Indicator or sensitive species.

COMMON NAME California Sheephead SCIENTIFIC NAME Semicossyphus pulcher

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Labridae

STATUS

Populations off southern California have declined because of fishing pressure and reduction of kelp beds; large males are now rare.

DISTRIBUTION

Monterey Bay to Guadalupe Islands (northern central Baja California) and Gulf of California; uncommon north of Point Conception.

HABITAT

Prefers rocky bottom, particularly in kelp beds; subtidal to 281 ft (93 m) but adults and juveniles usually at 10-100 ft (3-30 m).

DIET

Often feeds on hard-shelled organisms such as sea urchins, mollusks, lobsters, and crabs, which it crushes with tooth-plates in rear of mouth. Can pry food from rocks with canine teeth.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Each individual functions first as a female but changes to a male at about 1 ft (30 cm). Spawning occurs from July to September and each fish probably spawns several times.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Section 8585.5. The Legislature finds and declares that important commercial and recreational fisheries exist on numerous stocks of California sheephead... Section 8588(b). Minimum size: 12 in. (305 mm). Section 8597(b). ... Specimens of [sheephead] larger than 6 inches total length may be taken, possessed aboard a boat, or landed under a marine aquaria collector's permit. Also see Sections 10664-10667.

SPORT REGULATIONS

Section 27.60 (a). Limit: No more than 20 fin fish in any combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person except as otherwise provided.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial and recreational importance.

Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Tidewater Goby

SCIENTIFIC NAME Eucylogobius newberryi

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Perciformes
FAMILY Gobiidae

STATUS Endangered.

DISTRIBUTION Smith River (northern California) to Agua Hedionda

Lagoon (southern California).

HABITAT Coastal lagoons and brackish bays at the mouth of freshwater

streams.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Lafferty et al. 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Endangered species.

COMMON NAME California Halibut

SCIENTIFIC NAME Paralichthys californicus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes

ORDER Pleuronectiformes

FAMILY Bothidae

DISTRIBUTION

Quillayute River (northern Washington) to southern Baja California.

HABITAT

Variable: mostly on sand bottom near reefs, rocks, or kelp holdfasts. Common beyond surf line, also in bays and estuaries. Near shore to 600 ft (183 m). Commonly from 5-180 ft (2-60 m). Halibut tend to make seasonal inshore-offshore movements, moving inshore and aggregating in the late winter and early spring to spawn and feed, staying through the summer and fall, then dispersing offshore in late fall and winter.

DIET

Juveniles feed on copepods and amphipods. Adults feed on anchovies and similar small fishes.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR

Females are oviparous. Some spawning occurs throughout the year, but most spawning occurs from February to June. Spawning occurs inshore and most larvae are found over water shallower than 250 ft (83 m). The larvae settle out into shallow water 30 days after hatching.

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code 8609. The Legislature finds and declares that: (a) The central California nearshore gill and trammel net fisheries for California halibut and the use of gill nets in this fishery is expanding at a rapid rate. Section 8391. California halibut may be taken at any time. Section 8392(a) No California halibut may be taken, possessed, or sold that measures less than 22 inches in total length, unless it weighs 4 lbs. or more in the round, 3.5 lbs. or more dressed with the head on, or three pounds or more dressed with the head off. Also see Sections 316, 6903.5, 8405.3, 8495-8497, 8609, 8625(a-c), 8626(a-d), 8842(a-b), 9027-9027.5, and 10664-10667. Title 14. Chapter 6. Section 189D.3. Not more than 500 lbs of groundfish bycatch may be retained, processed or landed per trip. Landings shall contain a legal size California halibut (22 in total length except fish weighing 4 lbs or more in the round, 3.5 lbs or more dressed with the head on, or 3 lbs or more dressed with the head off).

SPORT REGULATIONS

Fish and Game Code Sections 8385 and 28.15(a). Limit: 5 in waters south of a line extending due west magnetic from Point Sur Monterey County. (b) Min. size: 22 in.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Commercial and recreational importance.

COMMON NAME Starry Flounder SCIENTIFIC NAME Platichthys stellatus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes
ORDER Pleuronectiformes
FAMILY Pleuronectidae

DISTRIBUTION Japan to Bering Sea and Arctic Alaska, and to Santa

Barbara (southern California).

HABITAT Common near shore, often in estuaries and to 900 ft (274 m).

Common from 5-150 ft (2-53 m).

DIET Small starry flounders eat mostly worms and small

crustaceans. As they grow they eat progressively more crabs, clams, sand dollars and brittle stars. Large individuals also eat some fishes, including sardines,

sanddabs and surfperch.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Females are oviparous and produce 900,000 to 11,000,000

eggs per year. Off California, spawning occurs from October to February. Eggs stay near the surface and hatch after 2-15 days, depending on temperature. Young settle out of the water column in shallow water, most commonly in estuaries, but also in the sandy intertidal zone and in

freshwater.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 27.60(a). Limit: No more than 20 fin fish in any

combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person except as otherwise provided. (b). There is no limit on

starry flounder.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Recreational importance.

COMMON NAME C-O Turbot

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Pleuronichthys coenosus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Osteichthyes

ORDER Pleuronectiformes
FAMILY Pleuronectidae

DISTRIBUTION SE Alaska to northern Baja California.

HABITAT On sandy, flat bottom but also in rocky areas, common in

shallow water. Inshore to 1150 ft (383 m).

DIET Sediment dwellers, such as worms, small crustaceans and

small fish.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR Spawning season is about March to August. Females are

oviparous and produce pelagic eggs.

COMMERCIAL Fish and Game Code Section 10667(a). In the Dana Point

REGULATIONS Marine Life Refuge below the intertidal zone, ...

[c-o turbot],...may be taken under the authority of a

sportfishing license as authorized by this code.

SPORT REGULATIONS Section 27.60(a). Limit: No more than 20 fin fish in any

combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species, may be taken or possessed by any one person

except as otherwise provided.

REFERENCES Eschmeyer et al. 1983, Love 1996.

COMMON NAME Ashy Storm-Petrel

SCIENTIFIC NAME Oceanodroma homochroa

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Aves

ORDER Procellariiformes **FAMILY** Hydrobatidae

STATE STATUS High Concern

OTHER STATUS Migratory Breeding Seabird

DISTRIBUTION Pacific coast from central Baja California to northern

California.

HABITAT Breeds on islands off the central and southern California

coast.

DIET Feeds on the surface of the ocean, eating small fish and

crustaceans.

REGULATIONS Migratory Bird Treaty Act 16 U.S.C. 703. Unless and

except as permitted by regulations made as hereinafter provided in this subchapter, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for

shipment, ship, cause to be shipped, deliver for

transportation, transport, cause to be transported, carry, or cause to be carried by any means whatever, receive for shipment, transportation or carriage, or export, at any time, or in any manner, any migratory bird, included in the terms

of this Convention...for the protection of migratory birds...or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird.

REFERENCES CADFG, Peterson 1990, Scott and Swinson 1994

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME California Brown Pelican

SCIENTIFIC NAME Pelecanus occidentalis californicus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Aves

ORDER Pelicaniformes
FAMILY Pelecanidae

STATE STATUS Endangered
FEDERAL STATUS Endangered

OTHER STATUS Migratory Breeding Seabird

DATE LISTED 10-13-70

DISTRIBUTION Pacific coast from Baja California to San Francisco.

Rare inland.

HABITAT Coastal.

DIET Dives from air after prey, capturing fish in pouch.

REGULATIONS Endangered Species Act of 1973. Section 9(a). General

(1) Except as provided in sections 6(g)(2) and 10 of this Act, with respect to any endangered species of fish or wildlife listed pursuant to section 4 of this Act it is unlawful for any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to (A) import any such species into, or export any such species from the United States; (B) take any such species within the United States or the territorial sea of the United States; (C) take any such species upon the high seas; (D) possess, sell, deliver, carry, transport, or ship in interstate or foreign commerce, by any means whatsoever and in the course of a commercial activity, any such species; (E) deliver, receive, carry, transport, or ship in interstate or foreign commerce any such species; or (G) violate any regulation pertaining to such species or to any threatened species of fish or wildlife listed pursuant to section 4 of this Act and promulgated by the Secretary

pursuant to authority provided by this Act.

REFERENCES CADFG, Peterson 1990, Scott and Swinson 1994

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Endangered species.

COMMON NAME Snowy Plover

SCIENTIFIC NAME *Charadrius alexandrinus*

PHYLUM Chordata CLASS Aves

ORDER Charadriiformes
FAMILY Charadriidae

FEDERAL STATUS Endangered

OTHER STATUS Migratory Breeding Shorebird

DISTRIBUTION Point Conception. Uncommon and declining.

HABITAT Inhabits barren sandy beaches and flats.

DIET Feeds by quickly running then picking up food, or probing

on beaches and at surf line. Eats marine worms, small

crustaceans, and, inland, insects.

REMARKS In California, there is an increasing shortage of breeding

sites on small offshore rocks, due to growing populations

of seals and sea lions.

REGULATIONS Migratory Bird Treaty Act 16 U.S.C. 703. Unless and

except as permitted by regulations made as hereinafter provided in this subchapter, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for

shipment, ship, cause to be shipped, deliver for

transportation, transport, cause to be transported, carry, or cause to be carried by any means whatever, receive for shipment, transportation or carriage, or export, at any time, or in any manner, any migratory bird, included in the terms

of this Convention...for the protection of migratory birds...or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird.

REFERENCES Peterson 1990.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

Endangered species.

COMMON NAME California Least Tern
SCIENTIFIC NAME Sterna antillarum browni

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Aves

ORDER Charadriiformes

FAMILY Laridae

STATE STATUSEndangeredFEDERAL STATUSEndangeredDATE LISTED6-27-71

DISTRIBUTION Less common and declining on the west coast.

Winters from central America south.

HABITAT Nests in colonies on beaches and sandbars.

DIET Catches small fish by plunge diving into water or

skimming over the surface.

REGULATIONS Endangered Species Act of 1973. Section 9(a). General

(1) Except as provided in sections 6(g)(2) and 10 of this Act, with respect to any endangered species of fish or wildlife listed pursuant to section 4 of this Act it is unlawful for any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to (A) import any such species into, or export any such species from the United States; (B) take any such species within the United States or the territorial sea of the United States; (C) take any such species upon the high seas; (D) possess, sell, deliver, carry, transport, or ship in interstate or foreign commerce, by any means whatsoever and in the course of a commercial activity, any such species; (E) deliver, receive, carry, transport, or ship in interstate or foreign commerce any such species; or (G)

violate any regulation pertaining to such species or to any threatened species of fish or wildlife listed pursuant to

section 4 of this Act and promulgated by the Secretary pursuant to authority provided by this Act.

REFERENCES CADFG, Peterson 1990, Scott and Swinson 1994

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Endangered species.

COMMON NAME Pigeon Guillemont SCIENTIFIC NAME Cepphus columba

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Aves

ORDER Charadriiformes

FAMILY Alcidae

STATE STATUS Medium Concern

OTHER STATUS Migratory Breeding Seabird

DISTRIBUTION North Pacific. Breeds in NE Siberia, Alaska, and British

Columbia to California.

HABITAT Breeds colonially or solitarily in cliffs and slopes,

occasionally excavating a burrow.

DIET Catches fish and some shrimp with underwater dives.

Tends to feed in deeper water a little offshore.

REMARKS Total population estimated at 235,000 birds, most of these

in Farallon Islands

REGULATIONS Migratory Bird Treaty Act 16 U.S.C. 703. Unless and

except as permitted by regulations made as hereinafter provided in this subchapter, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for

shipment, ship, cause to be shipped, deliver for

transportation, transport, cause to be transported, carry, or cause to be carried by any means whatever, receive for shipment, transportation or carriage, or export, at any time, or in any manner, any migratory bird, included in the terms

of this Convention...for the protection of migratory birds...or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird.

REFERENCES Peterson 1990

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Xantus' Murrelet

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Synthliboramphus hypoleucus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Aves

ORDER Charadriiformes

FAMILY Alcidae

STATE STATUS Medium Concern

OTHER STATUS Migratory Breeding Seabird

DISTRIBUTION NE Pacific.

HABITAT Nests in colonies on rocky islands, ledges, and sometimes

in dense vegetation.

DIET Feed mostly on fish, especially anchovies and larvae of

other fish.

REMARKS Total population estimated at 5,600 with 1,500 birds in

Santa Barbara.

REGULATIONS Migratory Bird Treaty Act 16 U.S.C. 703. Unless and

except as permitted by regulations made as hereinafter provided in this subchapter, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for

shipment, ship, cause to be shipped, deliver for

transportation, transport, cause to be transported, carry, or cause to be carried by any means whatever, receive for shipment, transportation or carriage, or export, at any time, or in any manner, any migratory bird, included in the terms

of this Convention...for the protection of migratory birds...or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird.

REFERENCES Peterson 1990

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Cassin's Auklet

SCIENTIFIC NAME Ptychoramphus aleuticus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Aves

ORDER Charadriiformes

FAMILY Alcidae

STATUS Migratory Breeding Seabird

DISTRIBUTION N Pacific. Breeds highly colonially on coastal islands with

or without in crevices, cavities, caves and also in burrows, from Buldir Island in the Aleutians to SW and SE Alaska,

through British Columbia to S Baja California.

HABITAT Nests in colonies on islands and on isolated coastal cliffs

and headlands.

DIET Eats mostly crustaceans and some small fish.

REMARKS Total population estimated at 3,600,000 birds.

REGULATIONS Migratory Bird Treaty Act 16 U.S.C. 703. Unless and

except as permitted by regulations made as hereinafter provided in this subchapter, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for

shipment, ship, cause to be shipped, deliver for

transportation, transport, cause to be transported, carry, or cause to be carried by any means whatever, receive for shipment, transportation or carriage, or export, at any time, or in any manner, any migratory bird, included in the terms

of this Convention...for the protection of migratory birds...or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird.

REFERENCES Peterson 1990

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Harbor Seal SCIENTIFIC NAME Phoca vitulina

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Mammalia
ORDER Pinnipedia
FAMILY Phocidae

STATE STATUS Medium Concern

OTHER STATUS Variable

DISTRIBUTION Worldwide distribution from Japan to the Bering Sea; S

Alaska including Tres Marias and Aleutian Islands; NE Canada to Florida; Iceland and S Greenland; Spitsbergen;

the British Isles and Norway.

HABITAT Coastal waters, open ocean, estuaries and bays, freshwater

lakes, and rivers. Tends to exploit rocky inshore and kelp forest, soft-sediment bottom, pelagic, and freshwater

communities.

DIET Fish, cephalopods, krill, other invertebrates. Primarily

herring, cod, flounder, sculpin, gadoids, salmon, octopuses, whelks, shrimps, and amphipods.

REMARKS Harbor seals occur year-round on San Miguel Island.

They give birth to pups and breed from March to May. The population has increased steadily, stabilizing around

1,500 animals during the mid-1990s.

REGULATIONS Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

Sections 1372(a), 1372(b-f), 1373, and 1374.

REFERENCES CADFG, Bigg 1981, Riedman 1990.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Keystone or dominant species.

COMMON NAME Northern Fur Seal SCIENTIFIC NAME Callorbinus ursinus

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Mammalia
ORDER Pinnipedia
FAMILY Otariidae

FEDERAL STATUS Depleted
OTHER STATUS Decreasing
DATE LISTED 1-1-00

DISTRIBUTION Tokyo (Japan) to the Bering Sea; southern Alaska to San

Diego including the Pribilof and Aleutian Islands.

HABITAT Coastal waters, open ocean, estuaries and bays, freshwater

lakes, and rivers. Tends to exploit rocky inshore and kelp forest, soft-sediment bottom, pelagic, and freshwater

communities.

DIET Fish, cephalopods, and birds. Primarily pollock, herring,

lantern fish, cod, rockfish, squid, loons, and petrels.

REMARKS Northern fur seals appear firmly established at San Miguel

Island, the southern extent of the species' breeding range. Adult females tagged as pups in the Bering Sea and Russian Pacific have been observed at San Miguel Island. The species' growth at San Miguel Island is due to the immigration of females from northern populations. The only severe decreases have occurred as a result of strong

El Nino events in 1983 and 1997. The population numbered approximately 12,000 animals in 1997, based upon total pup production of around 3,000 for the two breeding colonies at Castle Rock and Adams Rock.

REGULATIONS Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

Sections 1372(a), 1372(b-f), 1373, and 1374.

REFERENCES NMGS, Gentry & Kooyman 1986., Riedman 1990.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Exhibited long-term or rapid decline.

COMMON NAME Southern Sea Otter
SCIENTIFIC NAME Enhydra lutris nereis

PHYLUM Chordata
CLASS Mammalia
ORDER Carnivora
FAMILY Mustelidae

FEDERAL STATUS Threatened
DATE LISTED 1-14-77

DISTRIBUTION Monterey Bay to Los Angeles.

HABITAT Rocky, sandy, and mixed shores, but are most common on

rocky shores, and prefer habitat with kelp. They generally remain close to shore in areas where the water depth is

20 m (65 ft) or less.

DIET Crabs, mussels, sea stars, clams, and abalones.

Fish and marine birds on occasion.

REMARKS Population increasing between 5-7% per year to 2,400

individuals in 1995 and declining to less than 2000 in 1999. Female otters give birth to a single pup each year. Females are believed to reach sexual maturity after 3 years, males after 5 years. Most births occur between February and April, although births do occur throughout

the year. Otters live between 12-20 years.

REGULATIONS Endangered Species Act of 1973. Section 9(a) and 6(g).

Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972. Sections 1372(a), 1372(b-f), 1373, and 1374.

REFERENCES ESA, CADFG, Watson and Root 1996.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING Keystone or dominant species.

Endangered species.